

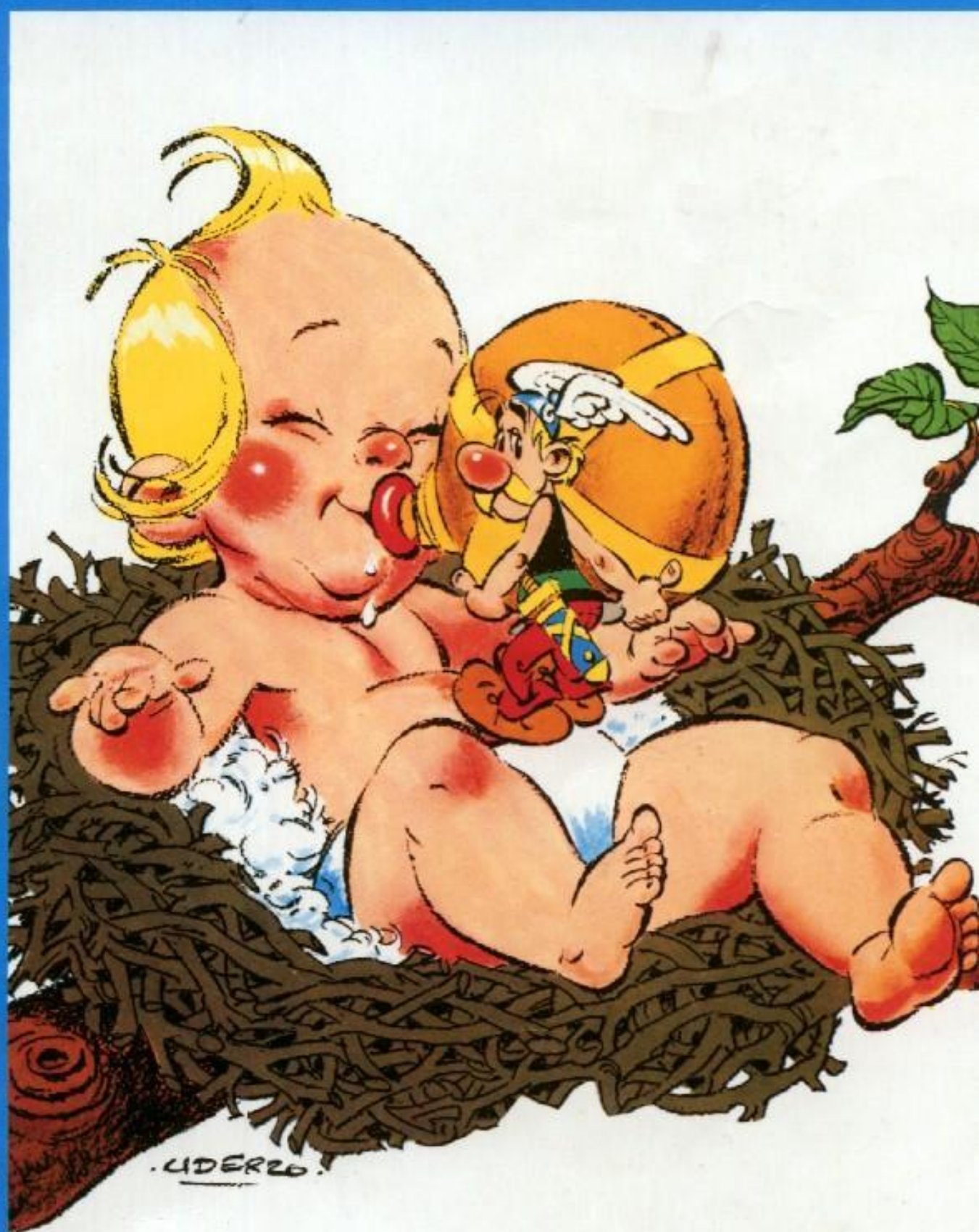
BOOK 28

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

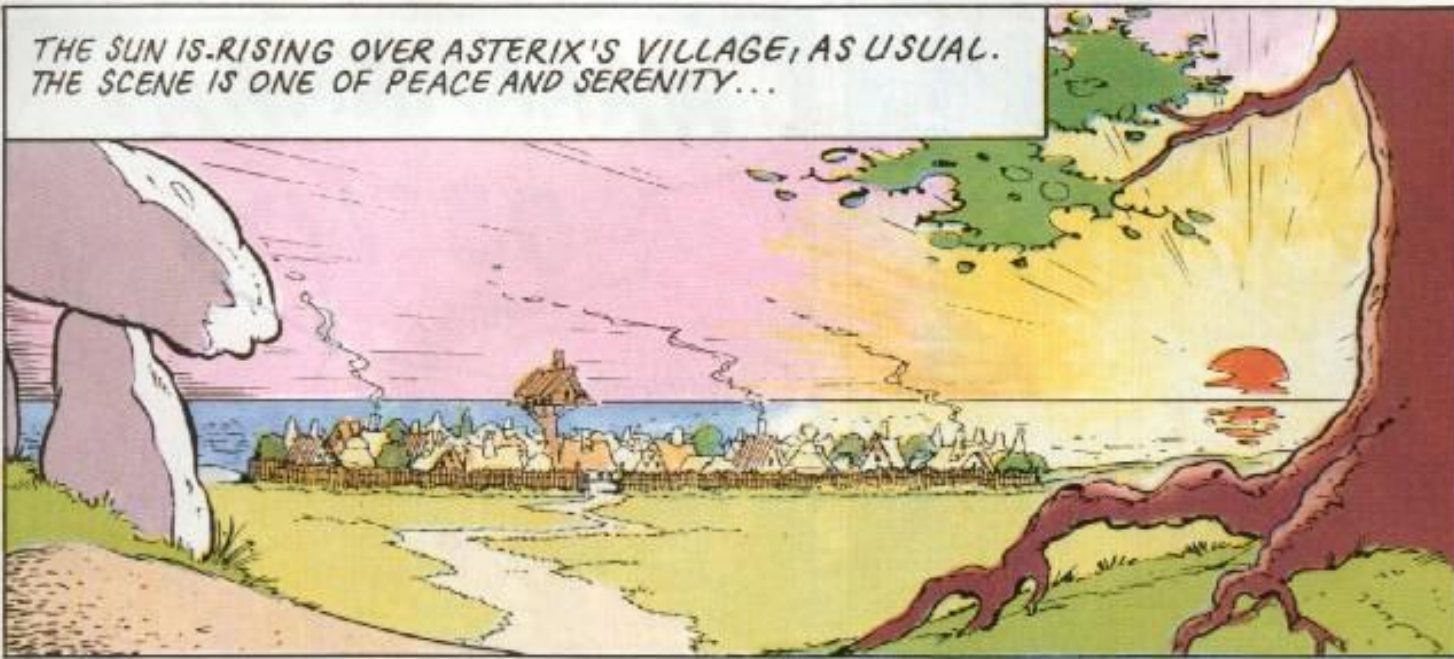
Asterix

and SON

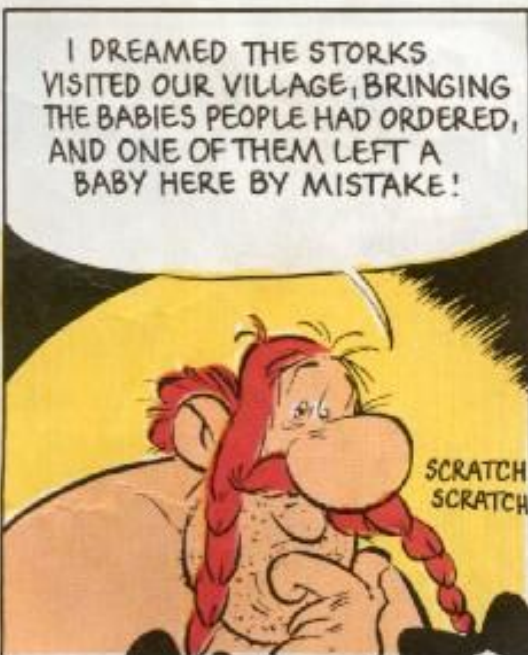
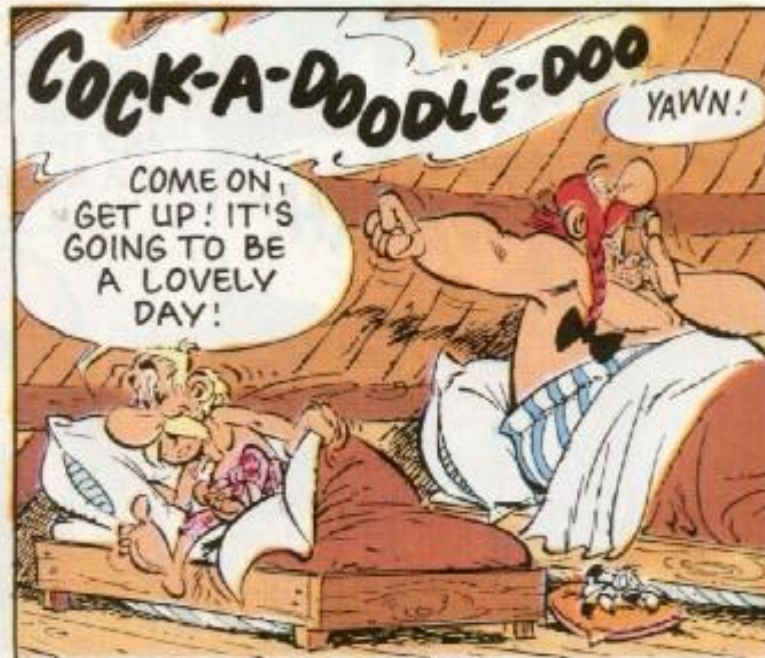
Asterix



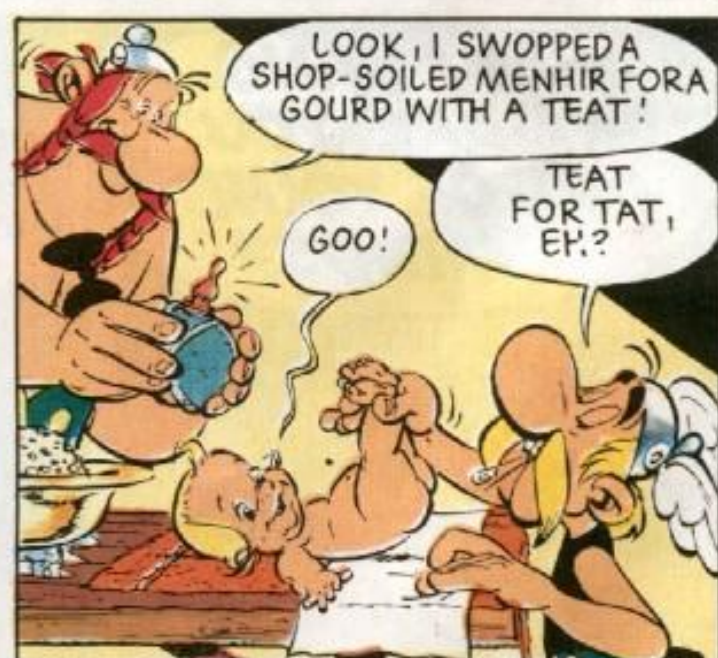
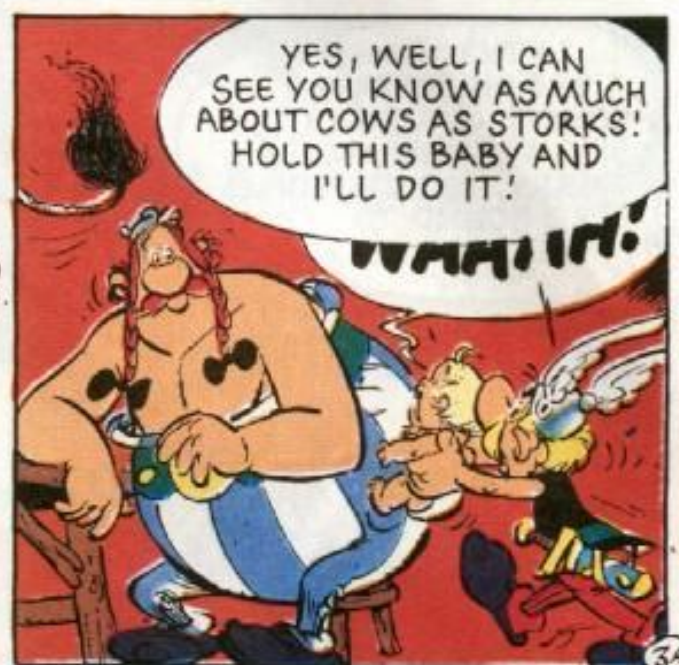
THE SUN IS RISING OVER ASTERIX'S VILLAGE, AS USUAL.
THE SCENE IS ONE OF PEACE AND SERENITY...



...DISTURBED, DESPITE THE FACT
THAT DAY IS DAWNING, BY THE
SNORES OF THE ONLY GAULISH
ROOSTER WHO HAS ADENOIDS.

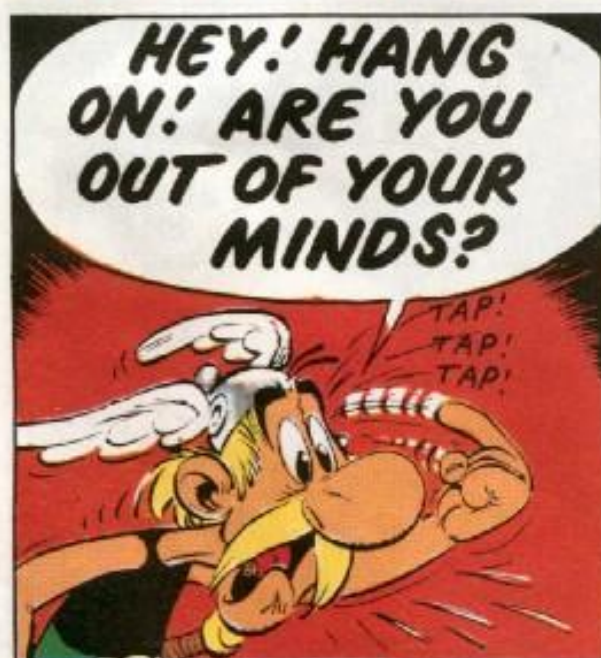


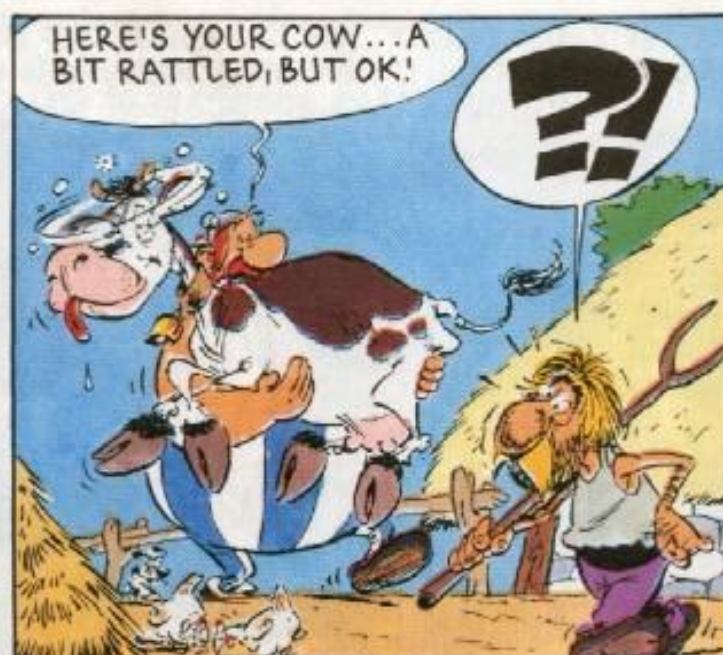
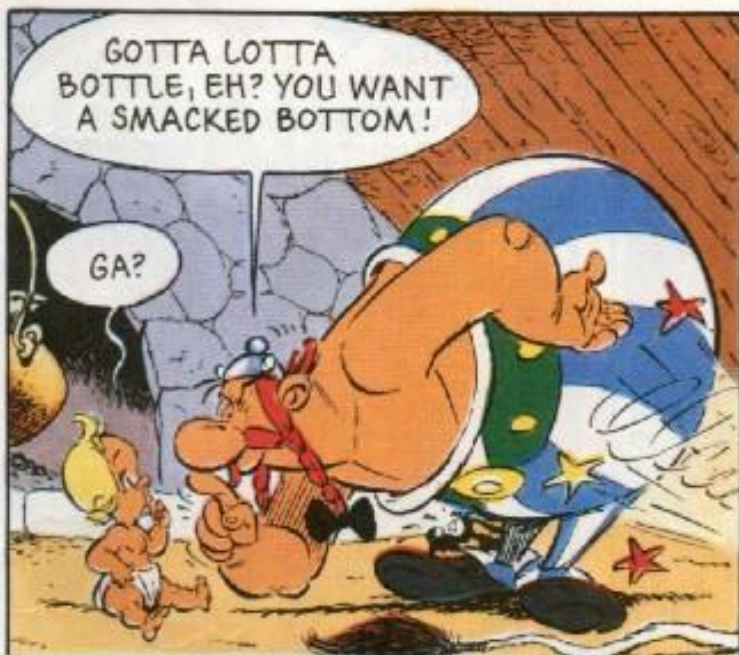
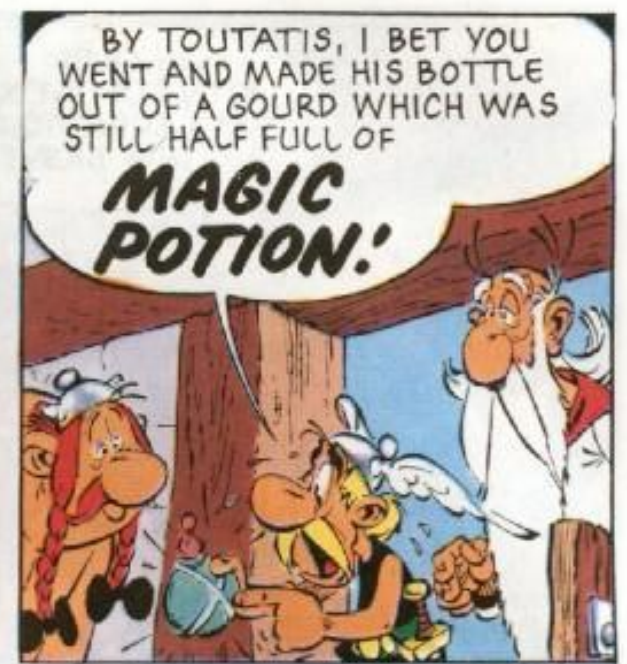
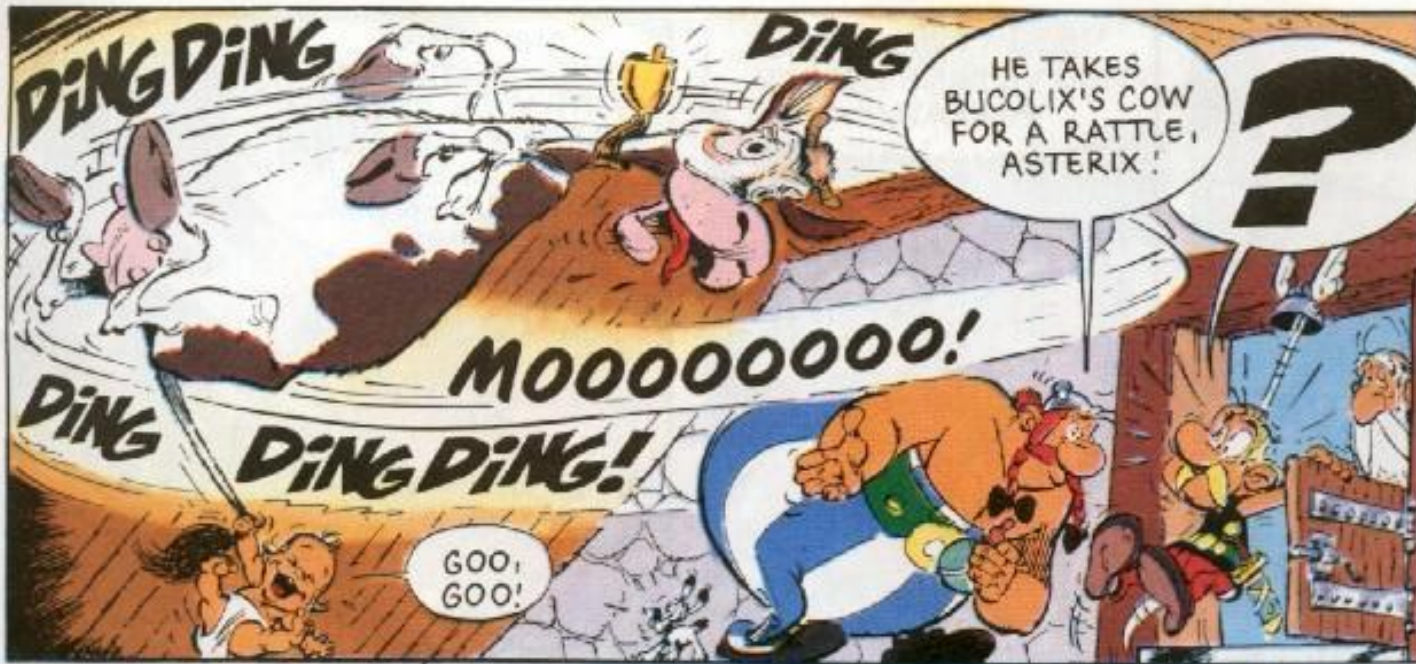


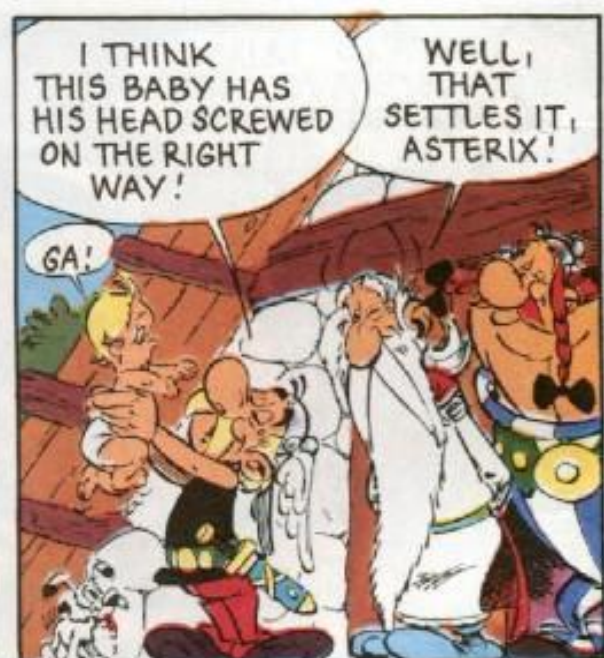


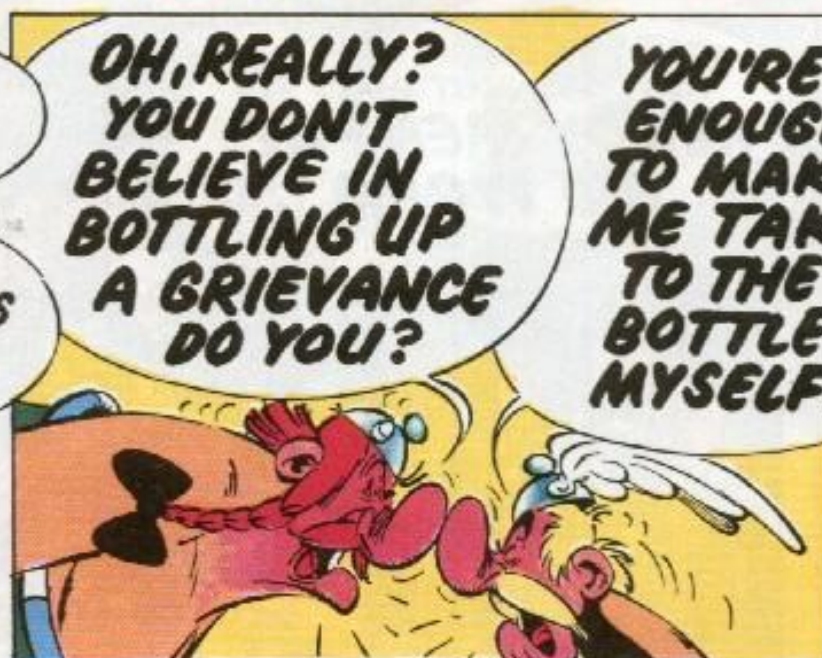
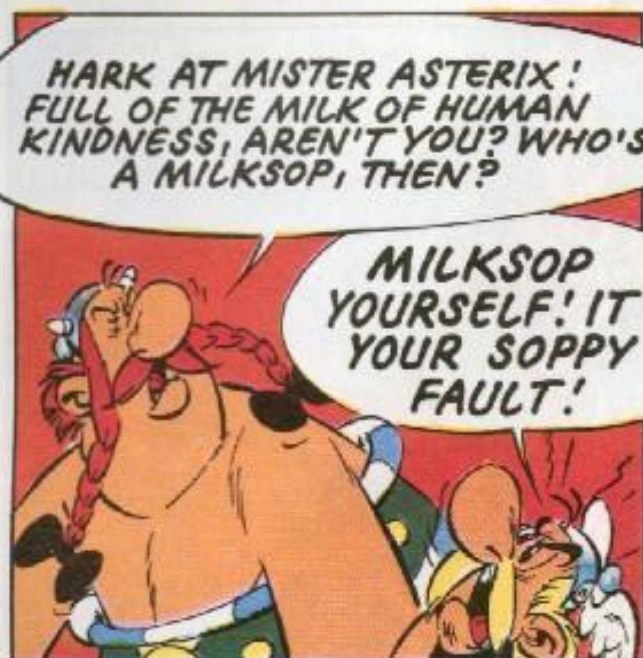


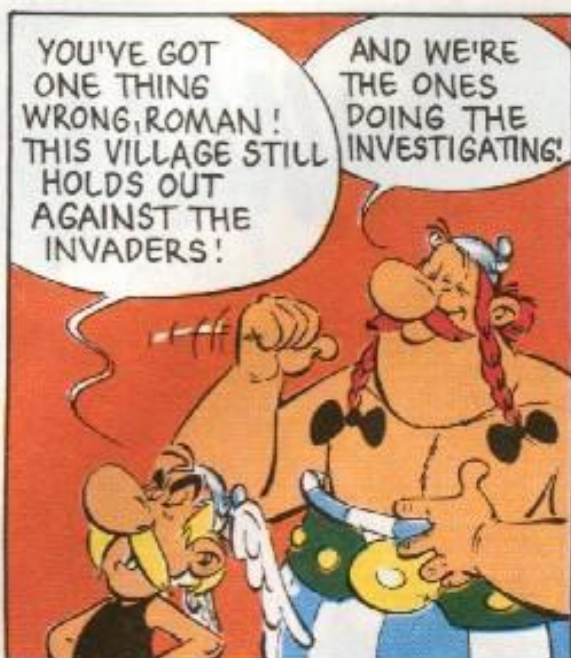
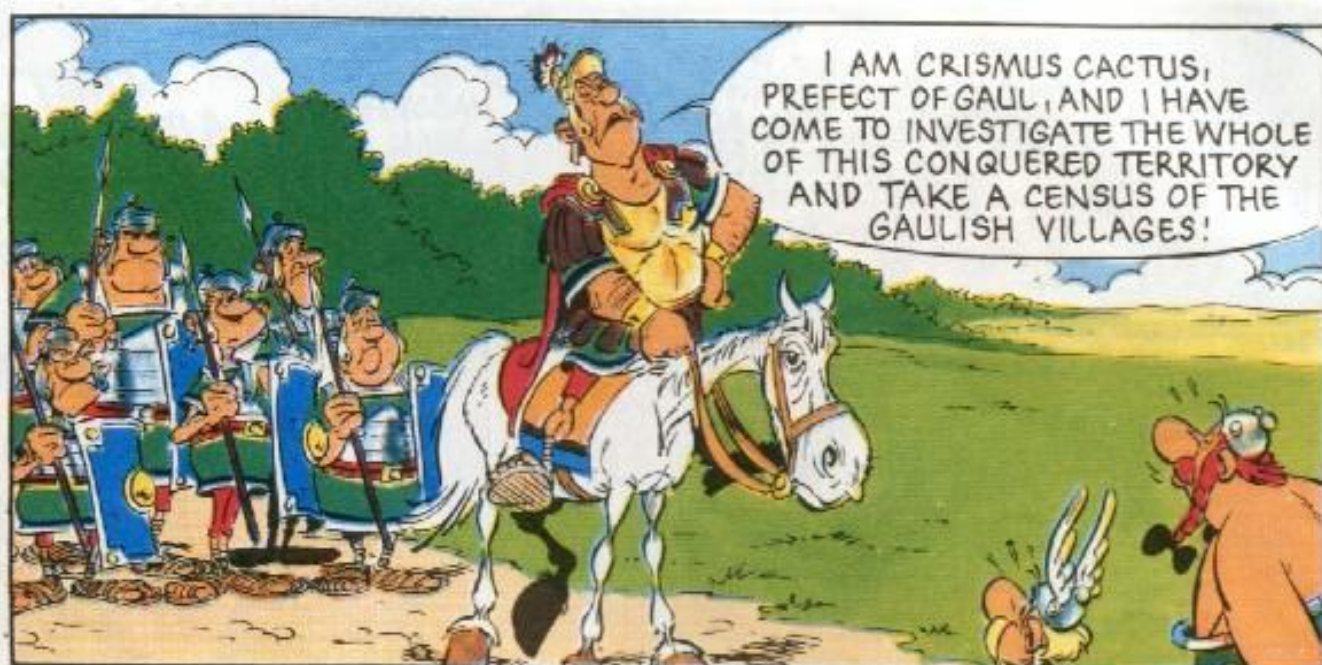
THINGS?
WHAT THINGS?

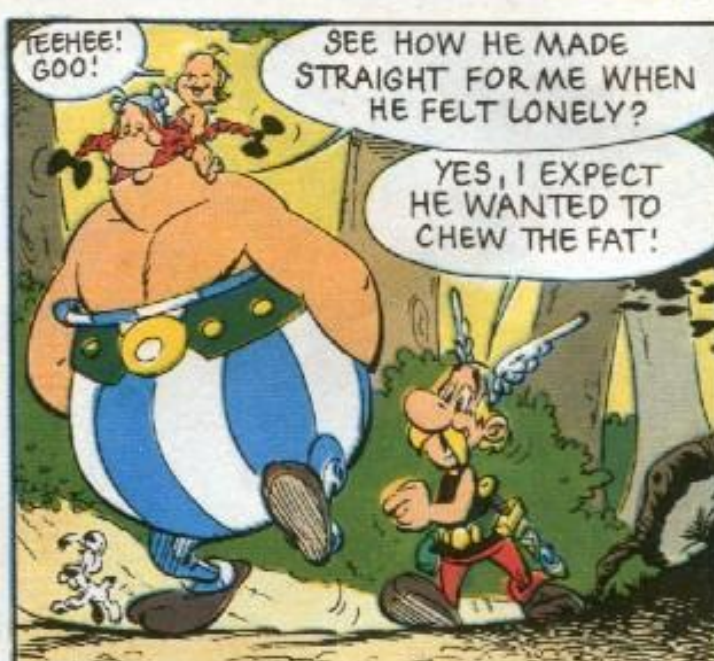
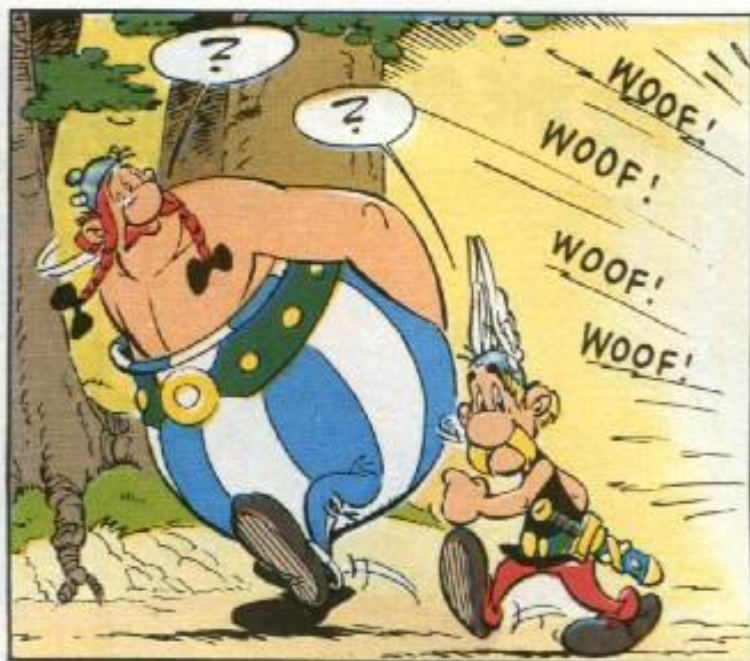


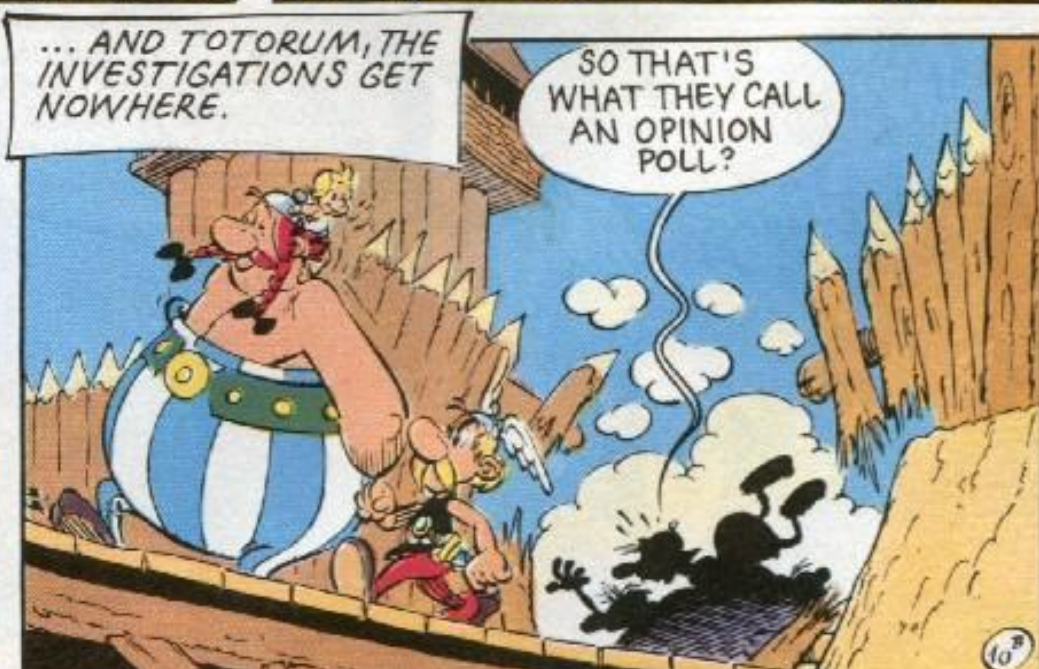
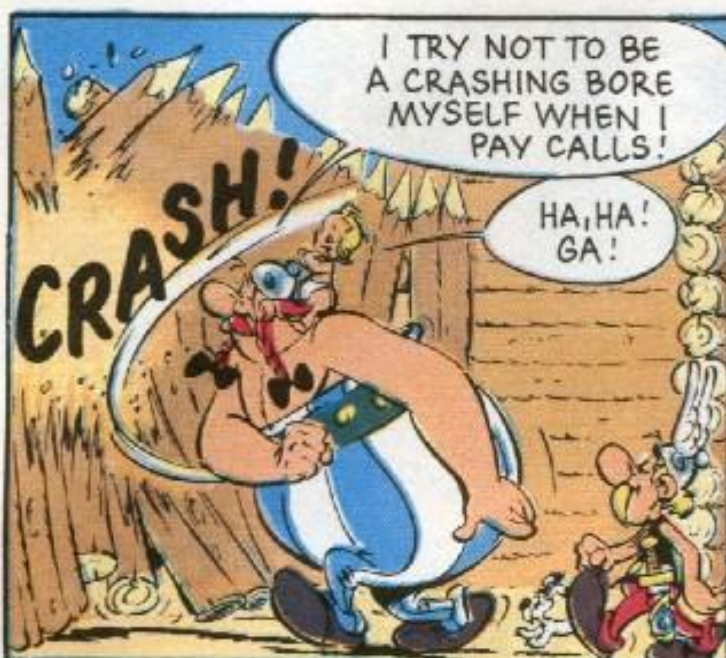
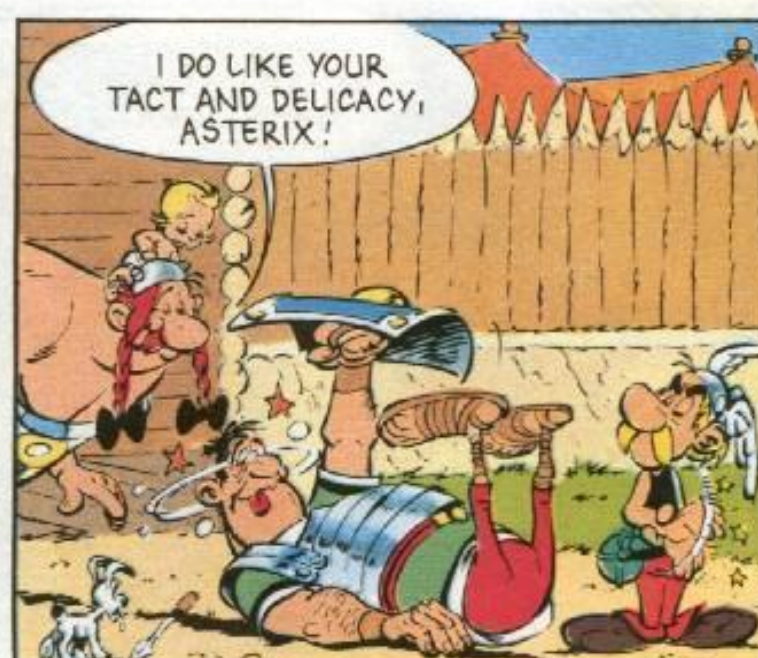
















MEANWHILE, AT CONDATUM, IN THE RESIDENCE OF THE PREFECT OF ARMORICA...

QUICK! SEND A MESSENGER OFF TO ROME!

DON'T BOTHER, CACTUS!

BRUTUS!?

THAT'S RIGHT! I'VE COME FROM ROME SPECIALLY TO HEAR THE LATEST ABOUT OUR LITTLE AFFAIR!

JUDGING BY YOUR SLOVENLY APPEARANCE, CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL BARBARIANS IS BAD FOR YOU!

CONTACT WITH THEIR FISTS IS! THIS INVESTIGATION YOU WANTED MADE IS A RISKY BUSINESS!

HAVE YOU FOUND THE BABY?

YES, I HAVE. HE'S IN A LITTLE VILLAGE ON THE NORTH COAST... BUT GUARDED BY TWO FIERCE GAULS WHO FLATTENED AN ENTIRE INFANTRY SECTION!

HMM... CAESAR'S OFTEN TOLD ME ABOUT THAT VILLAGE OF CRAZY BUT INDOMITABLE GAULS WHO GET THEIR STRENGTH FROM DRINKING MAGIC POTION!

BUT I'LL HAVE THAT BABY EVEN IF I HAVE TO PUT ALL GAUL TO FIRE AND THE SWORD!!!

LUCKILY, SOME WAY OFF...

COME ON, SON, TRY YOUR LEGS OUT!

GA!

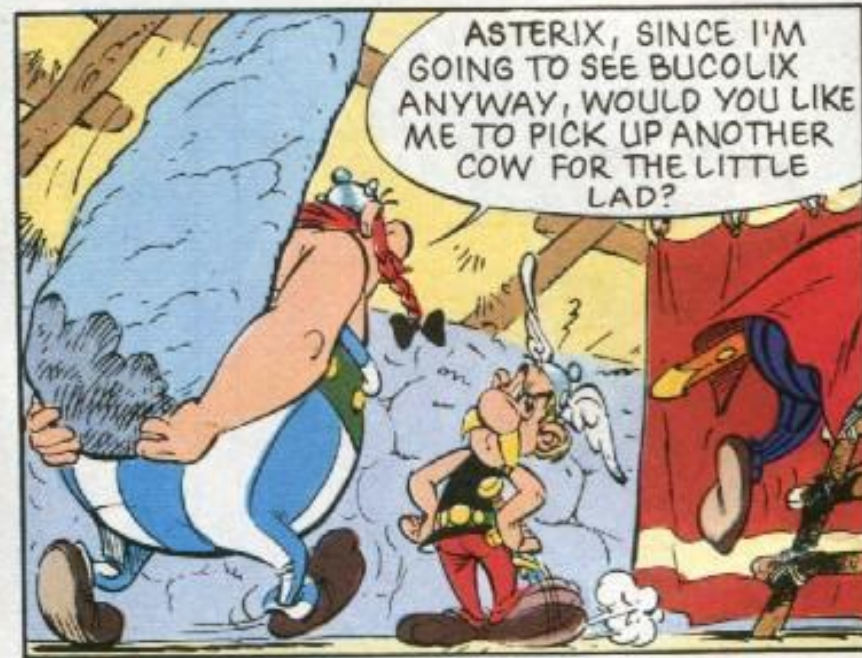
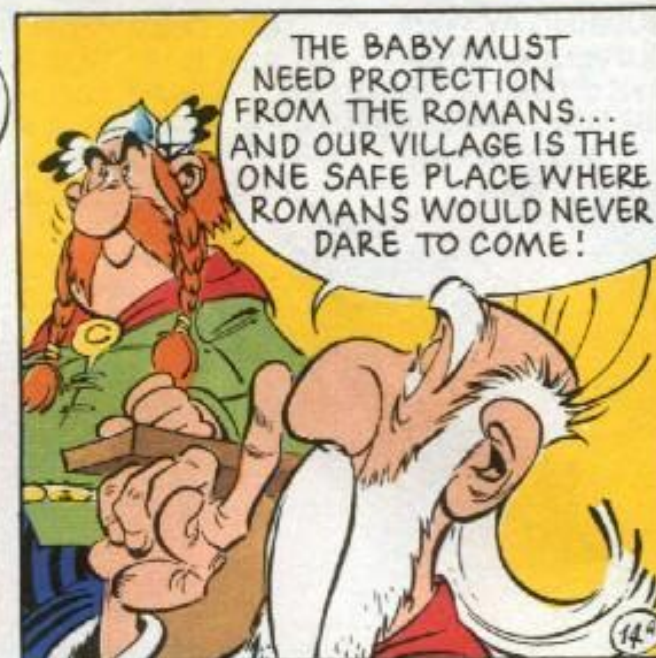
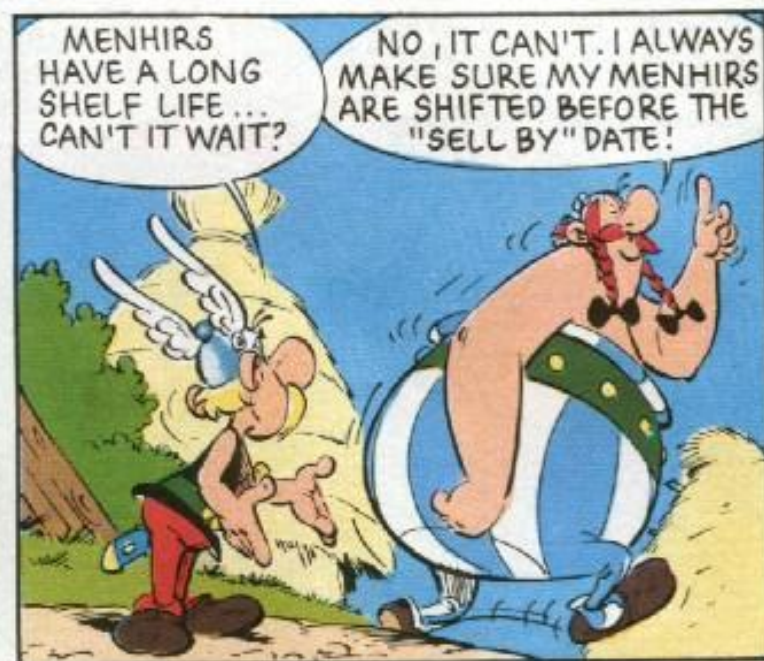
LOOK, ASTERIX! HE KNOWS HIS HOME ALREADY!

BANG!

JUST LIKE ME AT HIS AGE!

I WONDER IF WE'RE SETTING THAT CHILD A GOOD EXAMPLE?

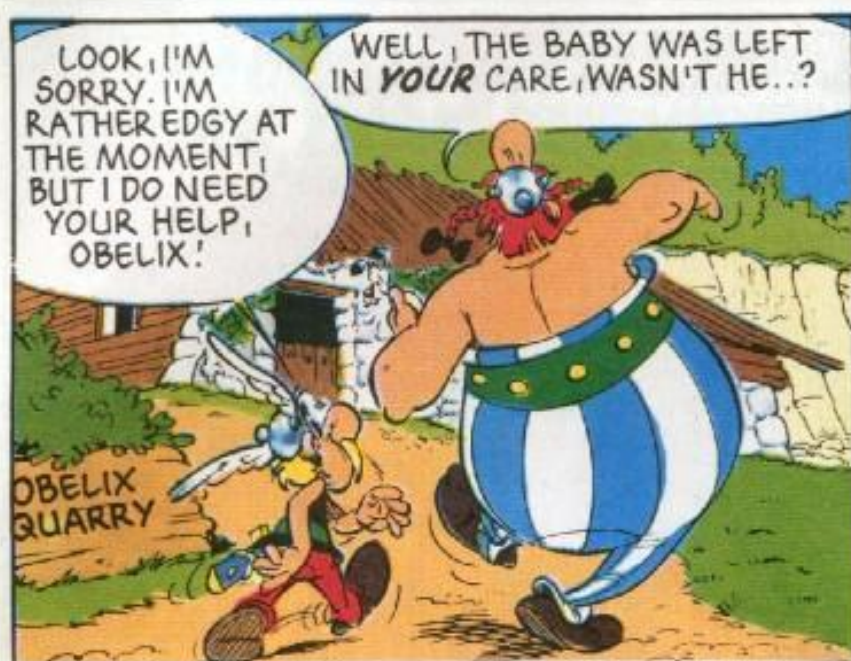
AGA!

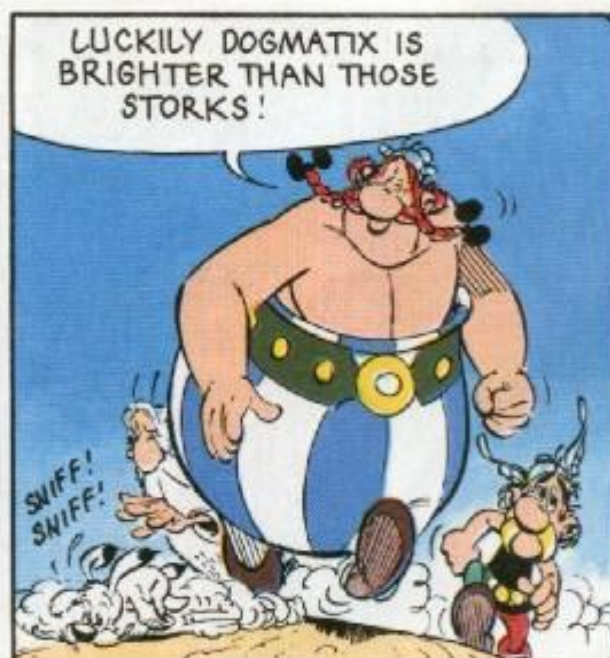
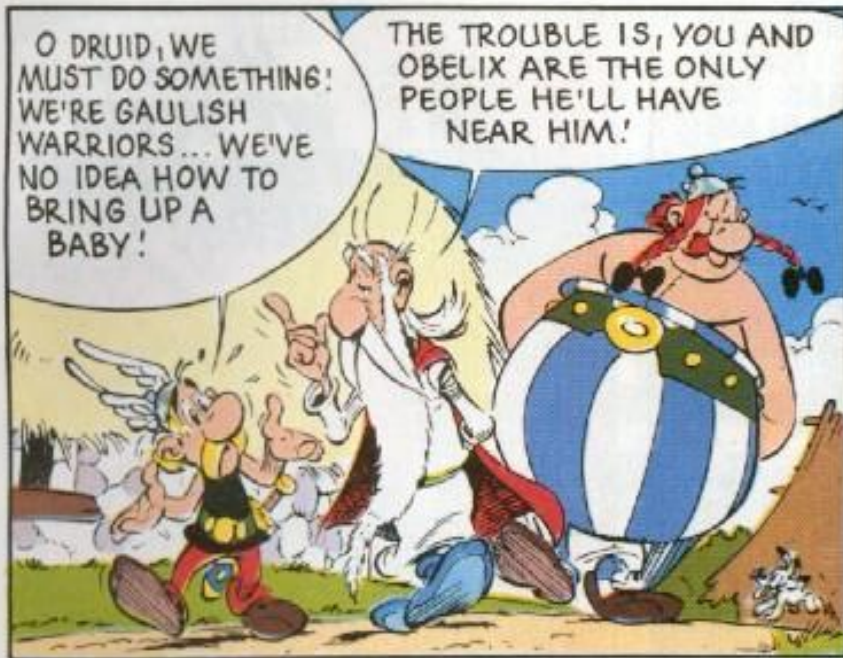












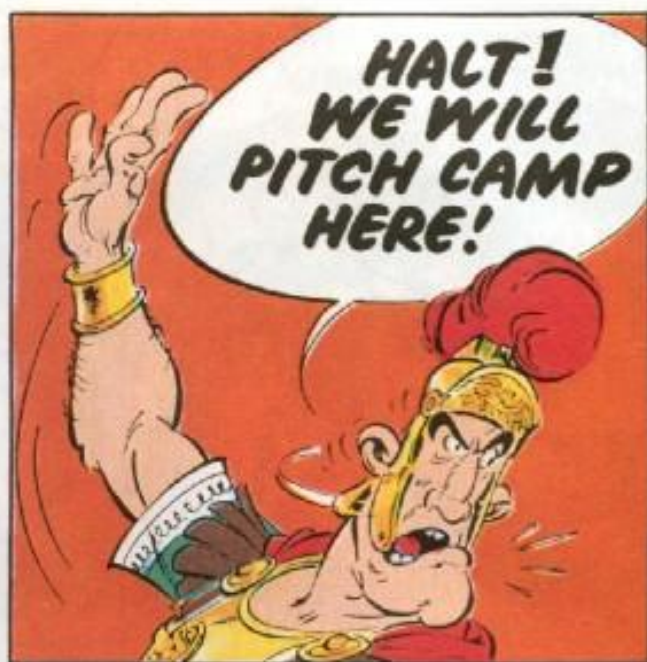
MEANWHILE,
NOT FAR
FROM THE
VILLAGE...

O MARCUS JUNIUS BRUTUS,
SINCE WE WANT OUR HQ NEAR THE
INDOMITABLE GAULS, WHY DON'T WE
USE ONE OF THE FORTIFIED CAMPS
SURROUNDING THEIR VILLAGE?

BECAUSE CAESAR MIGHT
GET TO HEAR OF IT, AND
I'M NONE TOO KEEN TO
HAVE HIM ASKING ME
WHAT I'M DOING HERE
IN ARMORICA!



**HALT!
WE WILL
PITCH CAMP
HERE!**



AND ONCE AGAIN WE ARE
PRIVILEGED TO WATCH THE
MANOEUVRES OF THE ROMAN
ARMY. WHILE THE SAPPERS DIG A
FOSSA (DITCH) AND RAISE AN
AGGER (RAMPART)...



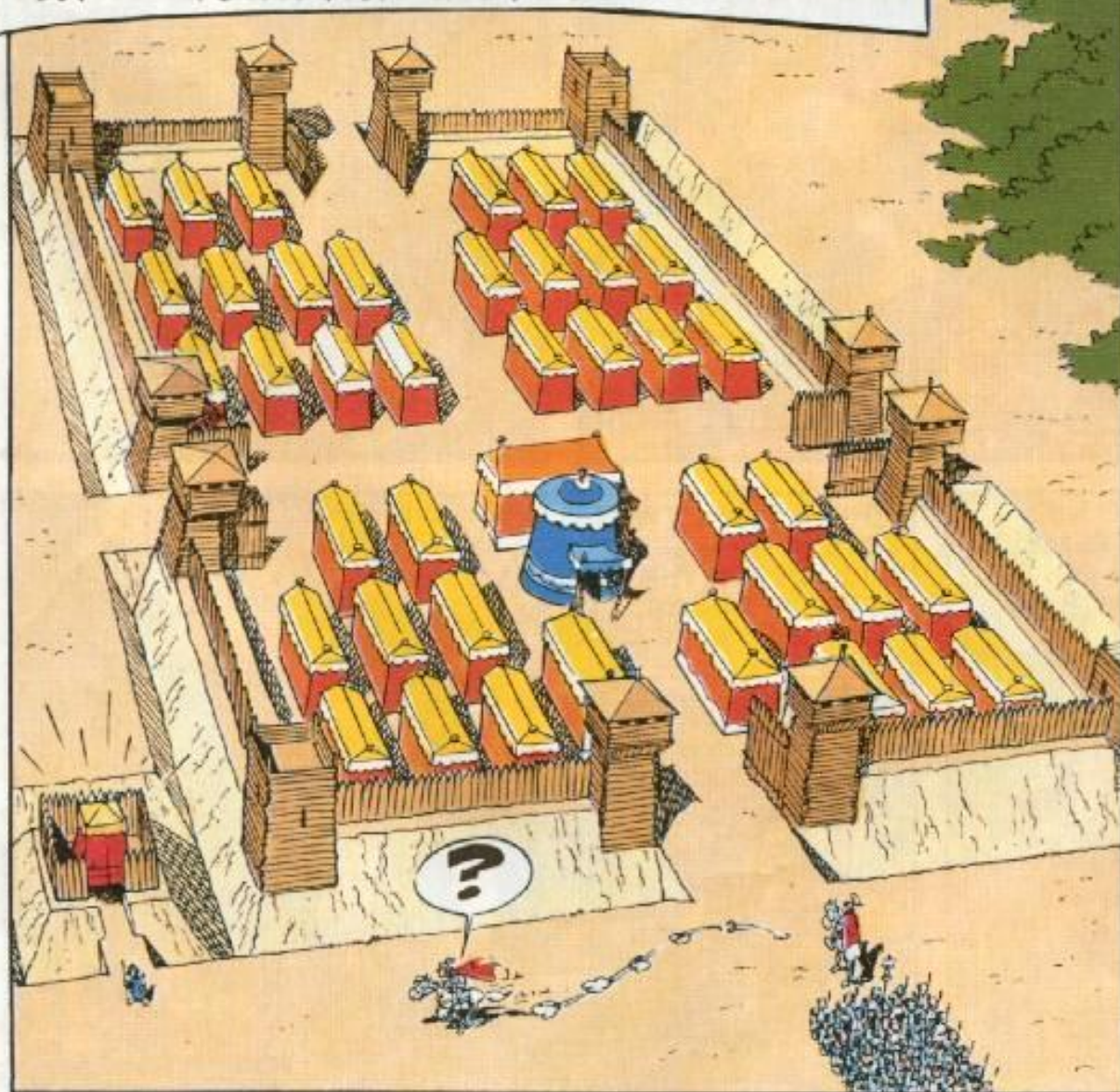
...THE WOODCUTTERS GO
TO CHOP DOWN TREES...



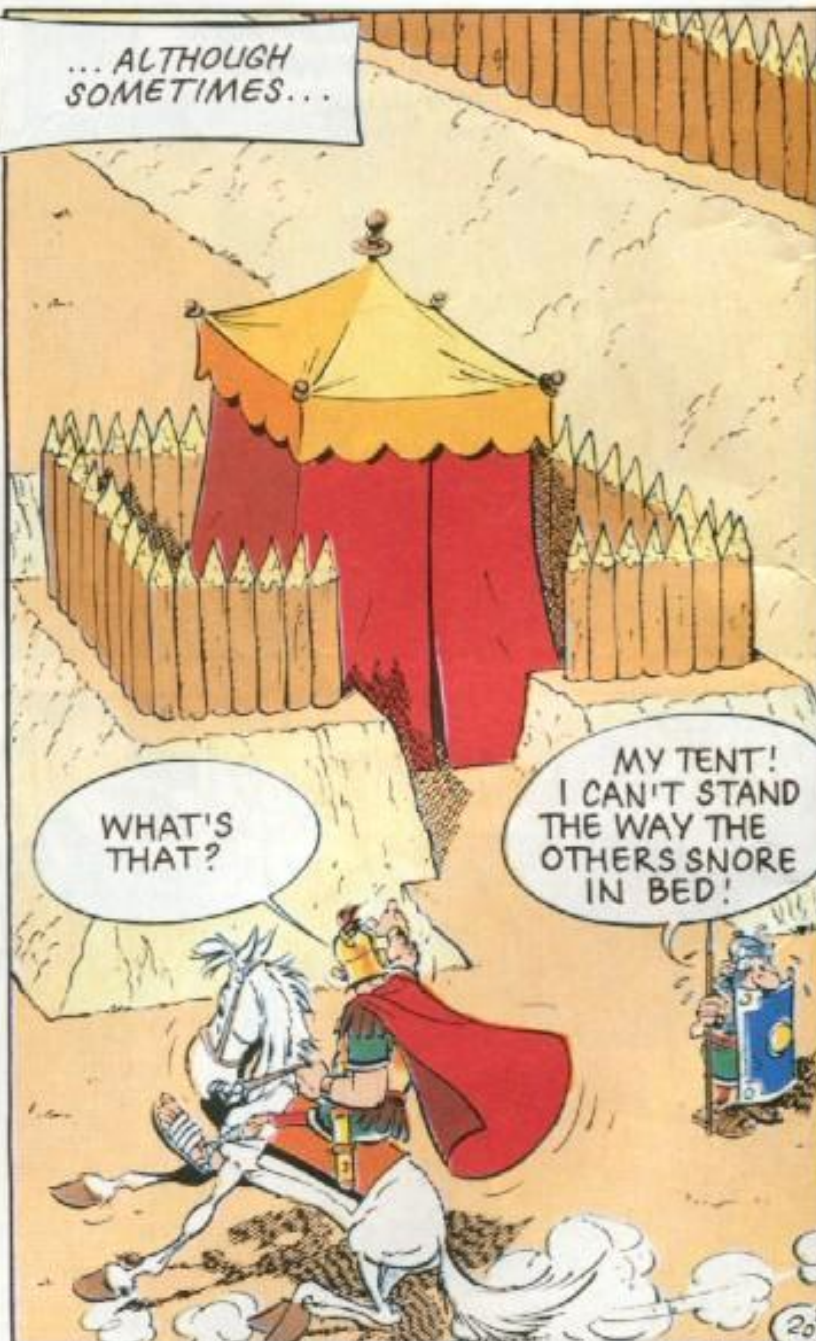
...FOR THE CARPENTERS TO BUILD
THE VALLUM (FENCE).



AT LAST THE CAMP IS READY. THE GENERAL AND HIS
MEN ARE ABOUT TO ENTER IN REVIEW ORDER, THUS
SYMBOLIZING THE MIGHT OF THE ROMAN ARMY, THE
BEST-DISCIPLINED FIGHTING FORCE IN THE WORLD...



...ALTHOUGH
SOMETIMES...



WHAT'S
THAT?

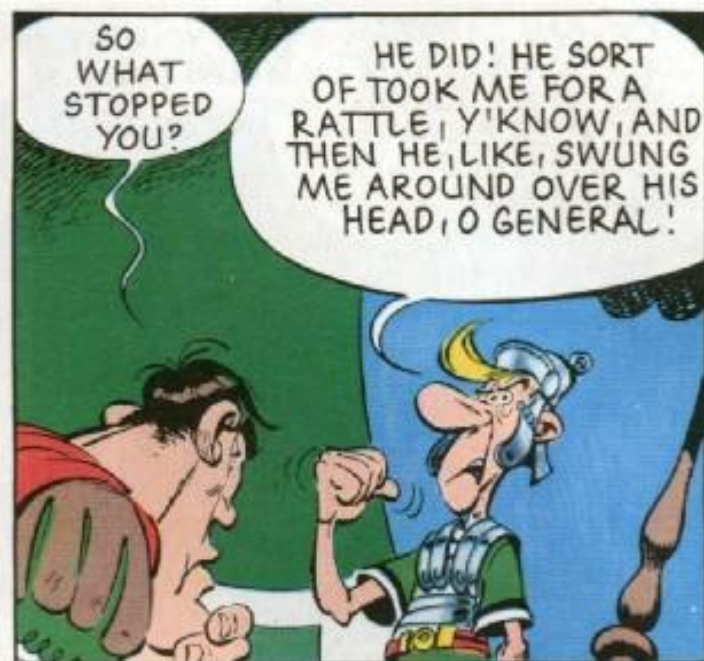
MY TENT!
I CAN'T STAND
THE WAY THE
OTHERS SNORE
IN BED!



HERE'S ODORIFERUS, THE LEGIONARY I MENTIONED, O BRUTUS!

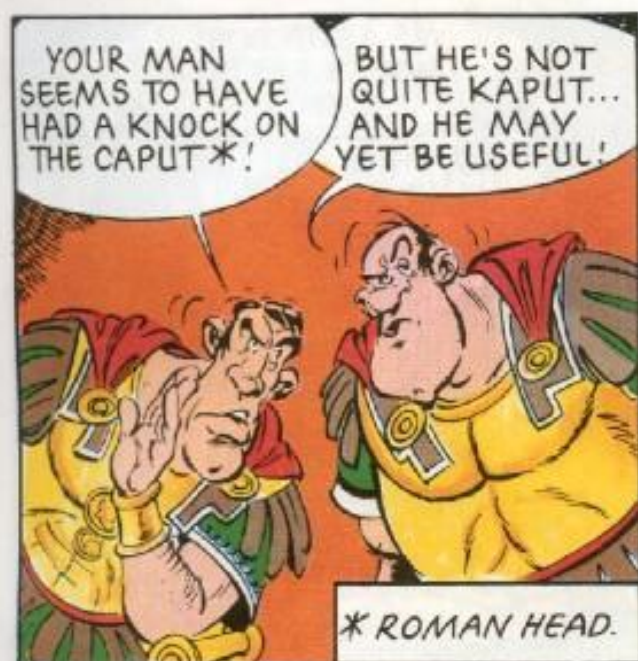
HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE LOOKING FOR A BABY, ODORIFERUS?

I SORT OF, LIKE, HEARD THE PREFECT MENTION IT TO THE CENTURION AT AQUARIUM, O GENERAL, AND I LIKE, Y'KNOW, NEARLY BROUGHT YOU THE BABY BACK!



SO WHAT STOPPED YOU?

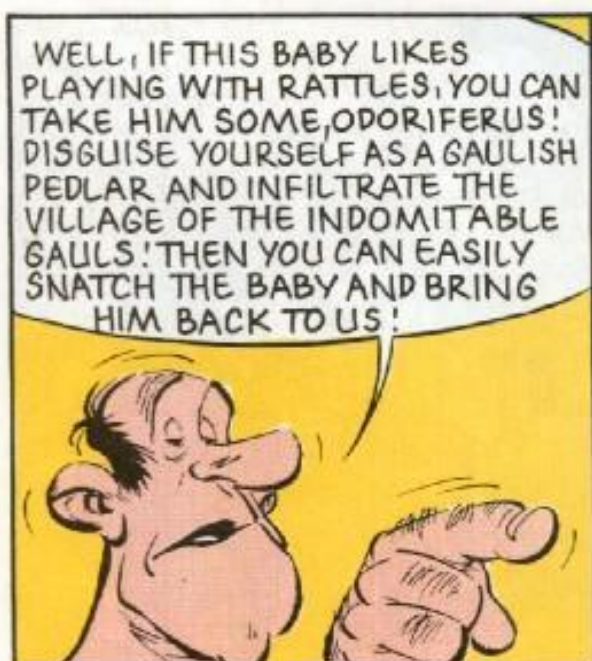
HE DID! HE SORT OF TOOK ME FOR A RATTLE, Y'KNOW, AND THEN HE, LIKE, SWUNG ME AROUND OVER HIS HEAD, O GENERAL!



YOUR MAN SEEMS TO HAVE HAD A KNOCK ON THE CAPUT*

BUT HE'S NOT QUITE KAPUT... AND HE MAY YET BE USEFUL!

* ROMAN HEAD.

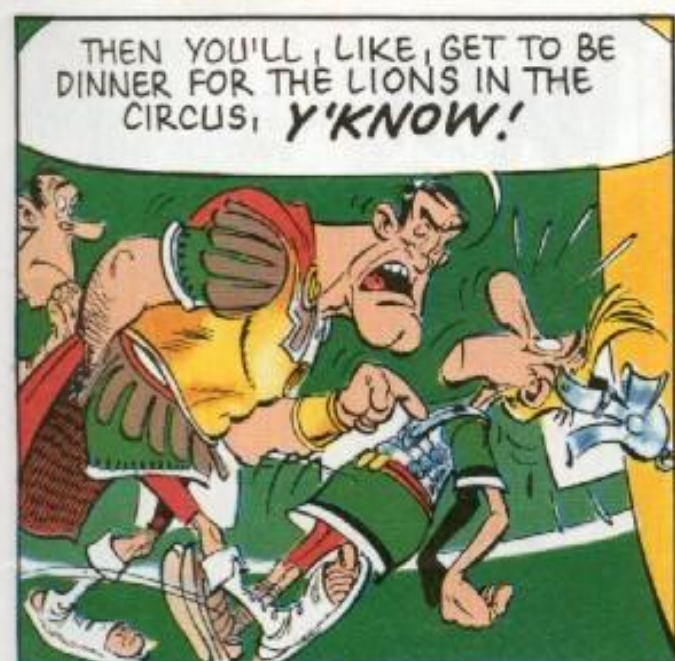


WELL, IF THIS BABY LIKES PLAYING WITH RATTLES, YOU CAN TAKE HIM SOME, ODORIFERUS! DISGUISE YOURSELF AS A GAULISH PEDLAR AND INFILTRATE THE VILLAGE OF THE INDOMITABLE GAULS! THEN YOU CAN EASILY SNATCH THE BABY AND BRING HIM BACK TO US!



IF YOU AGREE, AND SUCCEED, YOU'LL GET TO BE OPTIO!

AND IF I, LIKE, SAY NO, Y'KNOW?



THEN YOU'LL, LIKE, GET TO BE DINNER FOR THE LIONS IN THE CIRCUS, Y'KNOW!



LATER...

DIDN'T YOU READ THE NOTICE? NO PEDLARS OR CIRCULARS IN THIS CAMP!

THE DISGUISE IS PERFECT... IT'S EVEN TAKEN IN THE SENTRY!



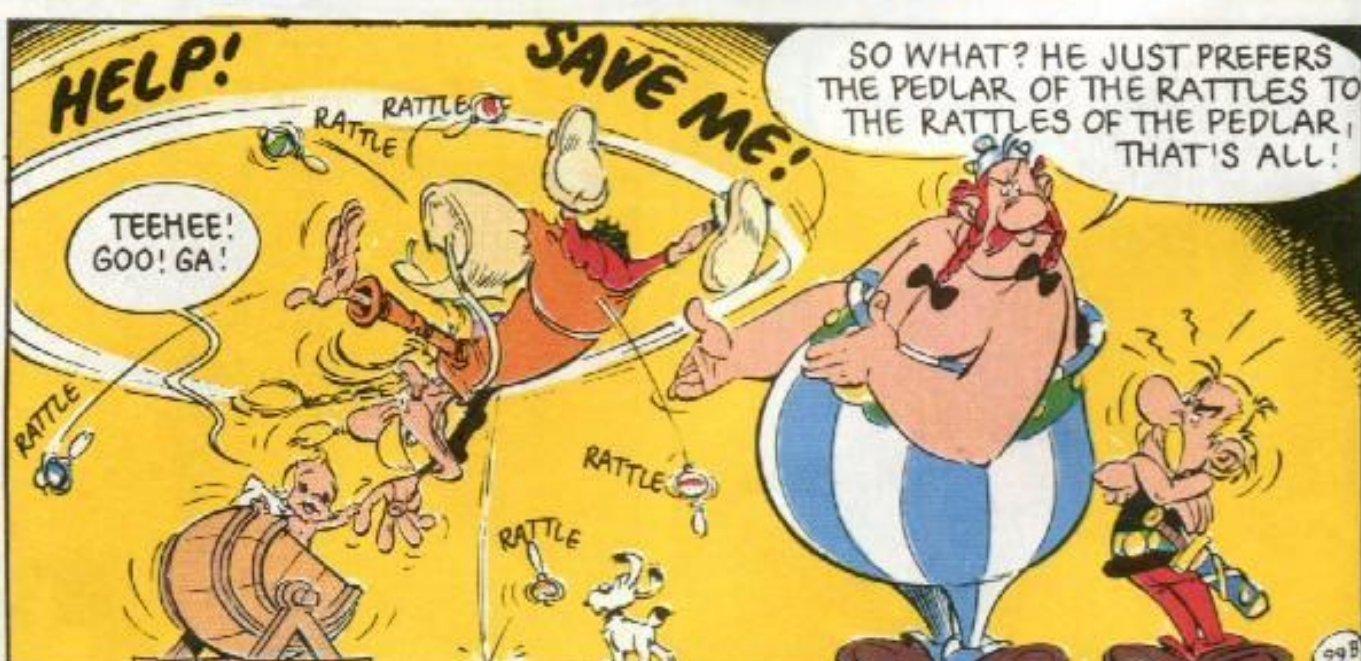
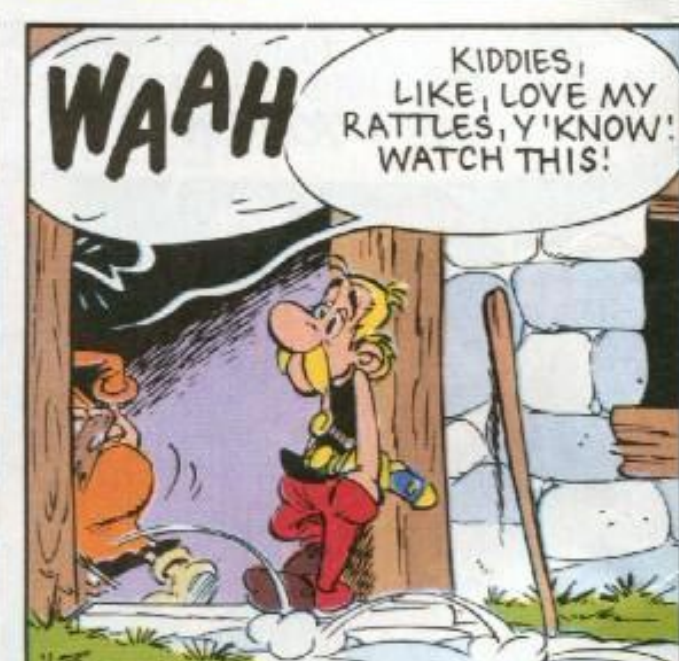
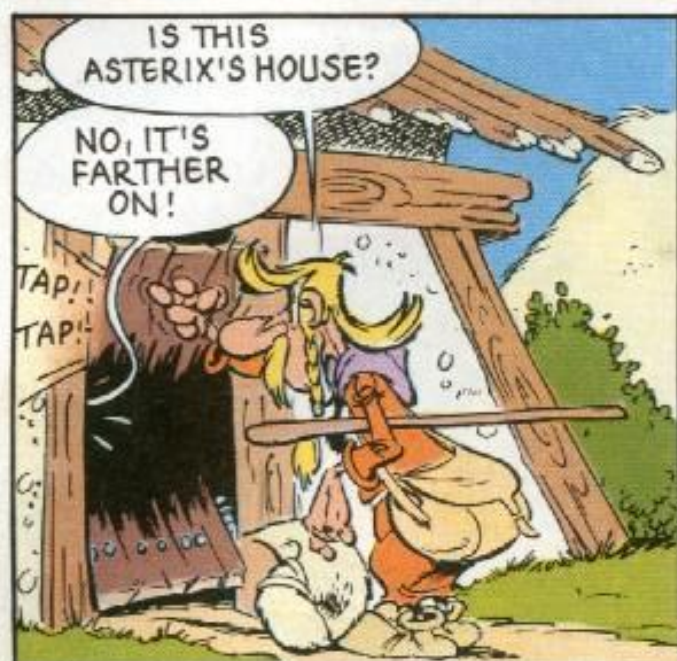
AND TO THINK I, LIKE, JOINED UP BECAUSE OF THE SMART UNIFORM!

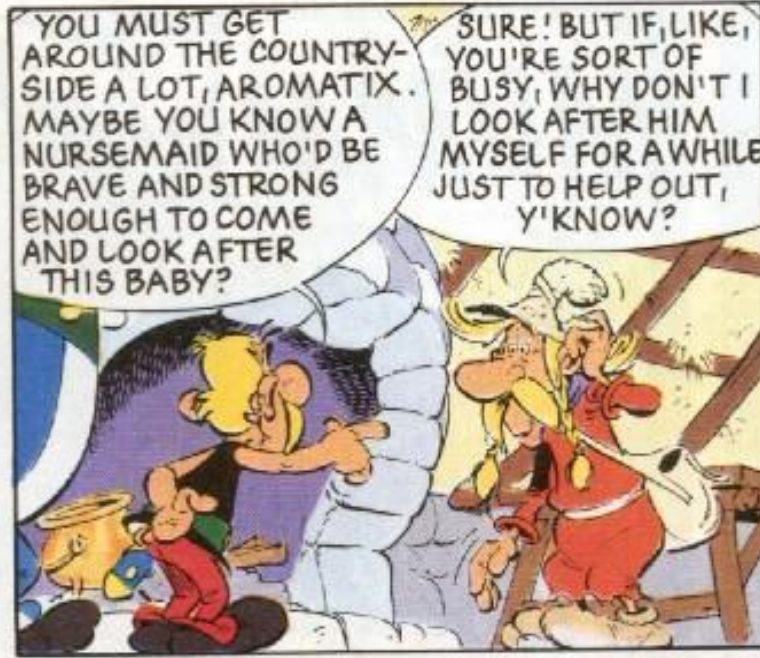
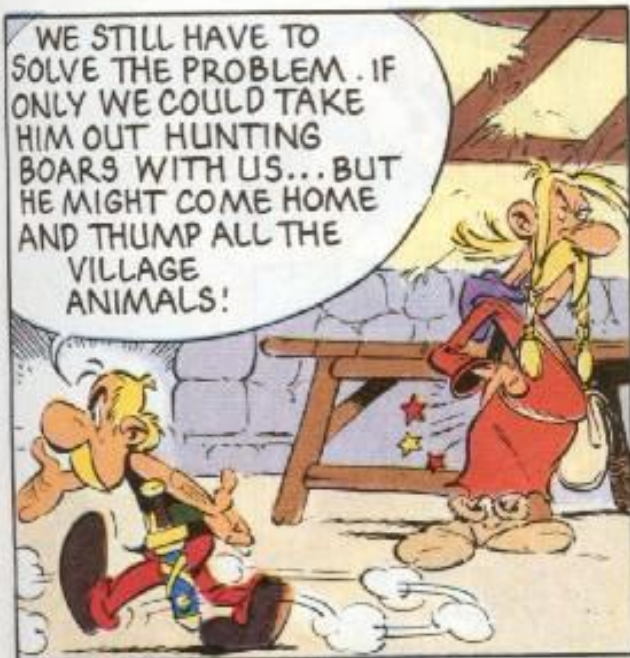


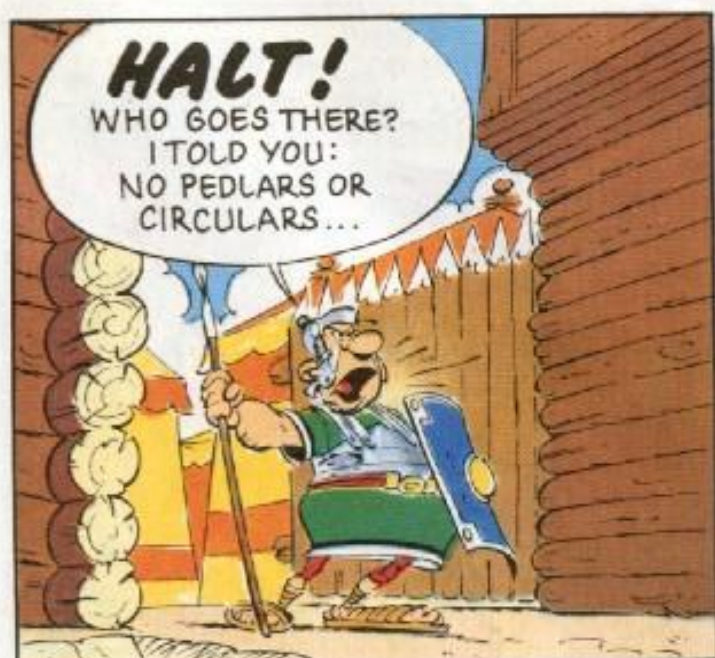
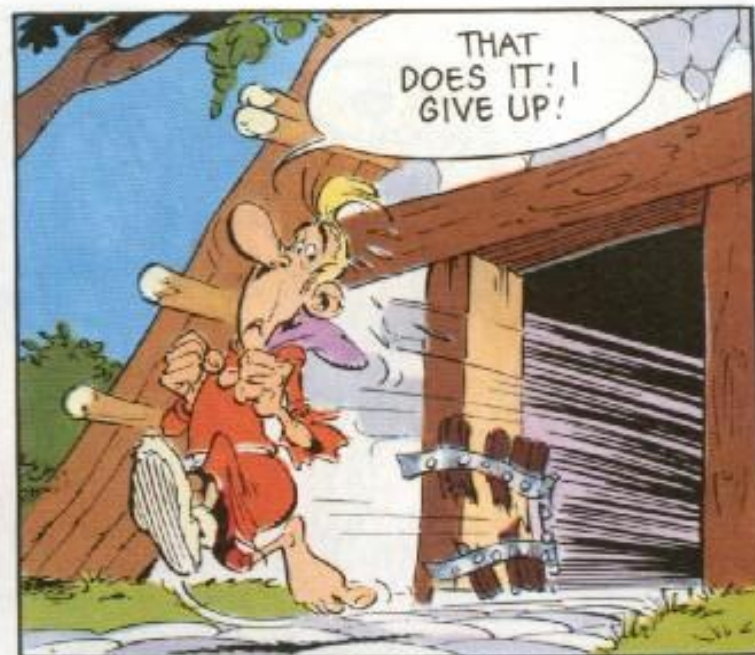
LATER STILL, JUST OUTSIDE ASTERIX'S VILLAGE...

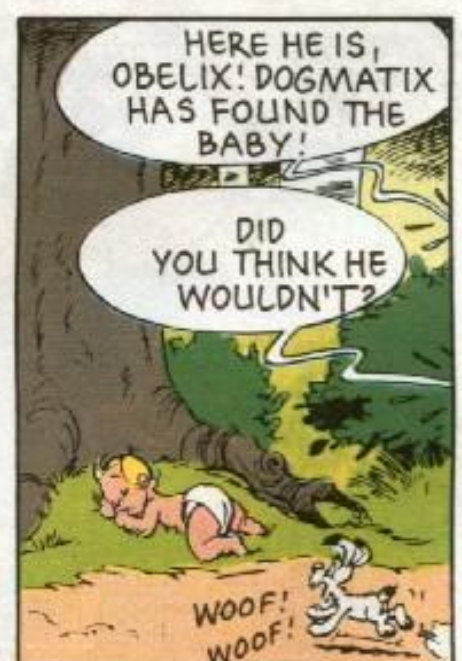
PAF!

GET OUT! NO PEDLARS OR CIRCULARS IN THIS VILLAGE!





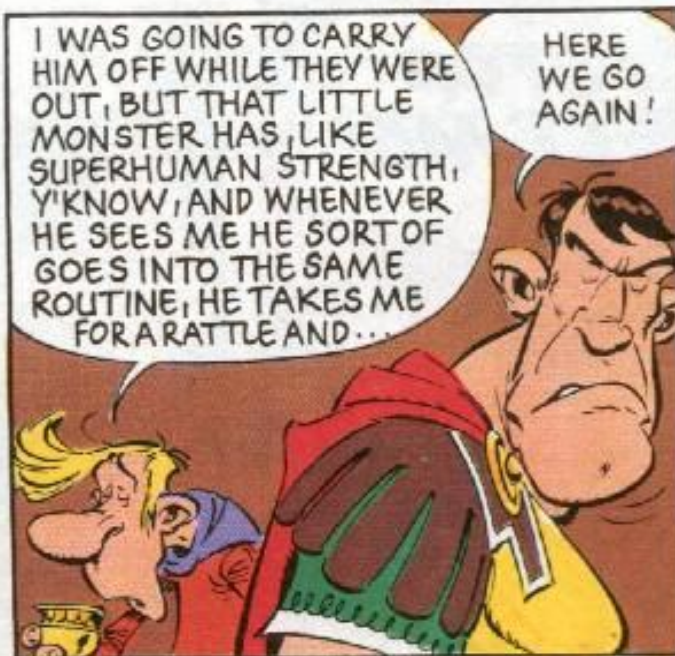






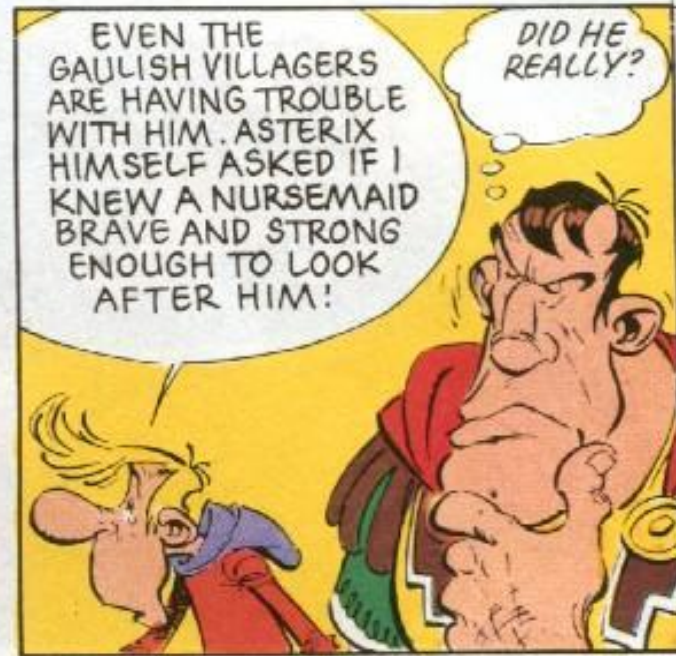
NOW, DRINK THIS PICK-ME-UP AND TELL US WHAT HAPPENED, ODORIFERUS!

I, LIKE, SORT OF WON THE GAULS' CONFIDENCE, Y'KNOW, AND THEY GAVE ME THE BABY TO LOOK AFTER...



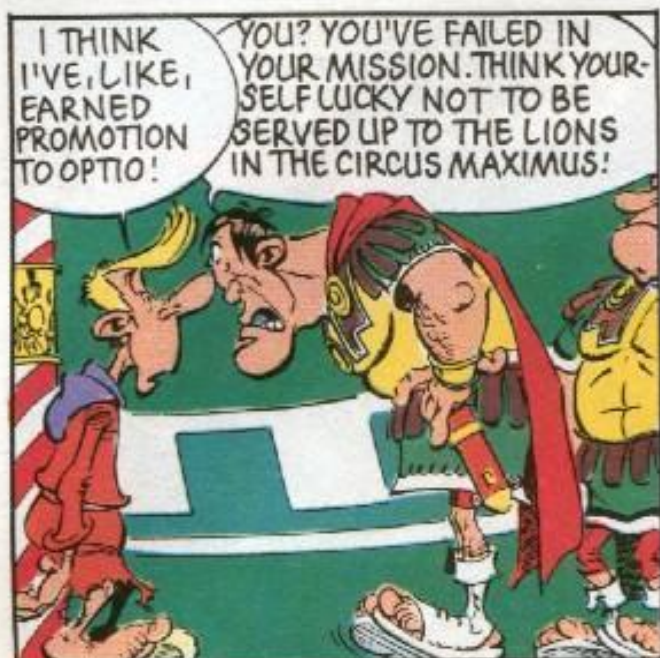
I WAS GOING TO CARRY HIM OFF WHILE THEY WERE OUT, BUT THAT LITTLE MONSTER HAS, LIKE SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH, Y'KNOW, AND WHENEVER HE SEES ME HE SORT OF GOES INTO THE SAME ROUTINE, HE TAKES ME FOR A RATTLE AND...

HERE WE GO AGAIN!



EVEN THE GAULISH VILLAGERS ARE HAVING TROUBLE WITH HIM. ASTERIX HIMSELF ASKED IF I KNEW A NURSEMAID BRAVE AND STRONG ENOUGH TO LOOK AFTER HIM!

DID HE REALLY?



I THINK I'VE, LIKE, EARNED PROMOTION TO OPTIO!

YOU? YOU'VE FAILED IN YOUR MISSION. THINK YOURSELF LUCKY NOT TO BE SERVED UP TO THE LIONS IN THE CIRCUS MAXIMUS!



I DIDN'T, LIKE, KNOW THESE PARTS BEFORE, BUT I WON'T BE SORT OF FORGETTING THE DISCOVERY OF ARMORICA IN A HURRY!



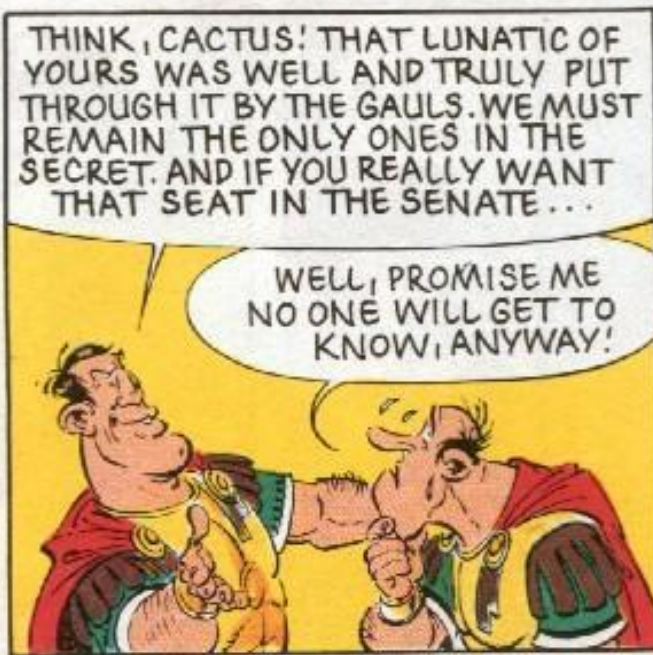
WHAT HE SAID ABOUT THE NURSEMAID GAVE ME AN IDEA! WHY DON'T **WE** SEND ONE TO THE VILLAGE?

BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T GOT ANY NURSEMAIDS IN THE ARMY, THAT'S WHY!



YES, WE HAVE... YOU!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ME?



THINK, CACTUS! THAT LUNATIC OF YOURS WAS WELL AND TRULY PUT THROUGH IT BY THE GAULS. WE MUST REMAIN THE ONLY ONES IN THE SECRET. AND IF YOU REALLY WANT THAT SEAT IN THE SENATE...

WELL, PROMISE ME NO ONE WILL GET TO KNOW, ANYWAY!



LATER...

AVE, GORGEOUS! LIKE A BIT OF SLAP AND TICKLE?

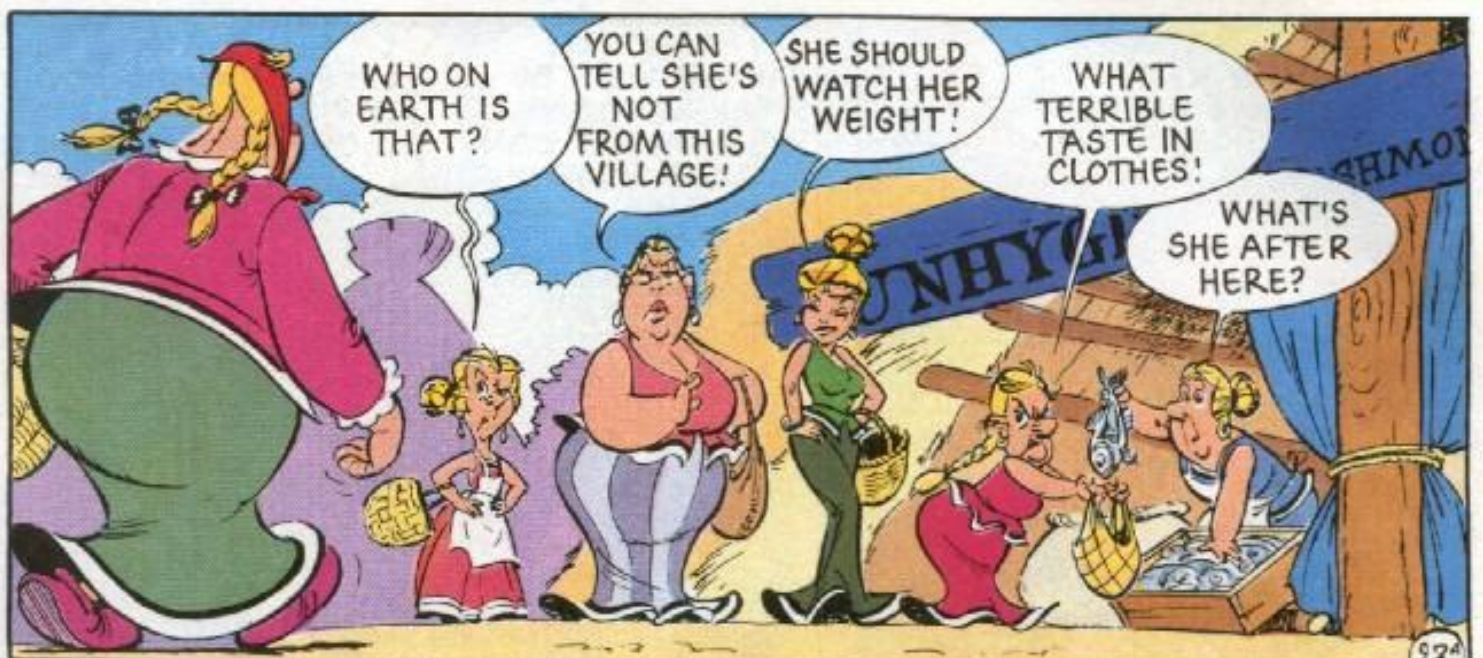


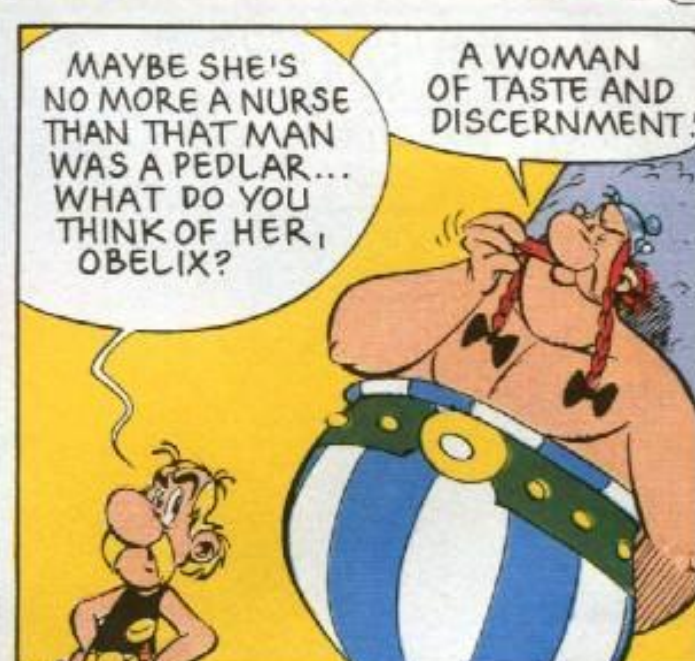
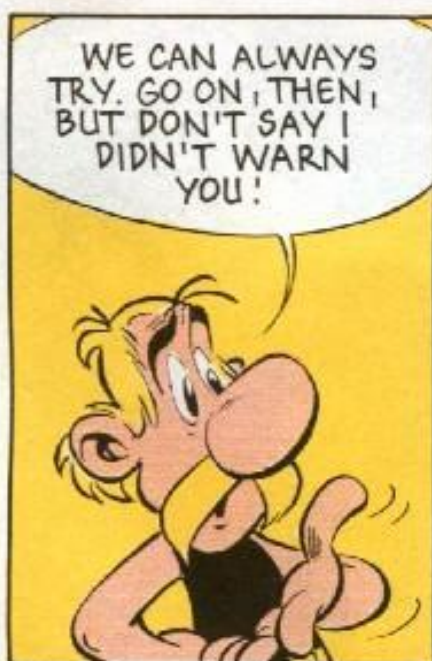
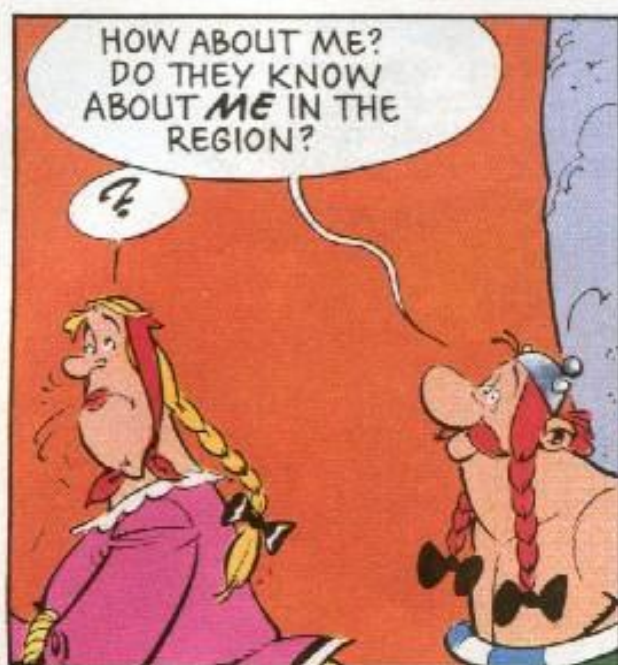
SLAP!

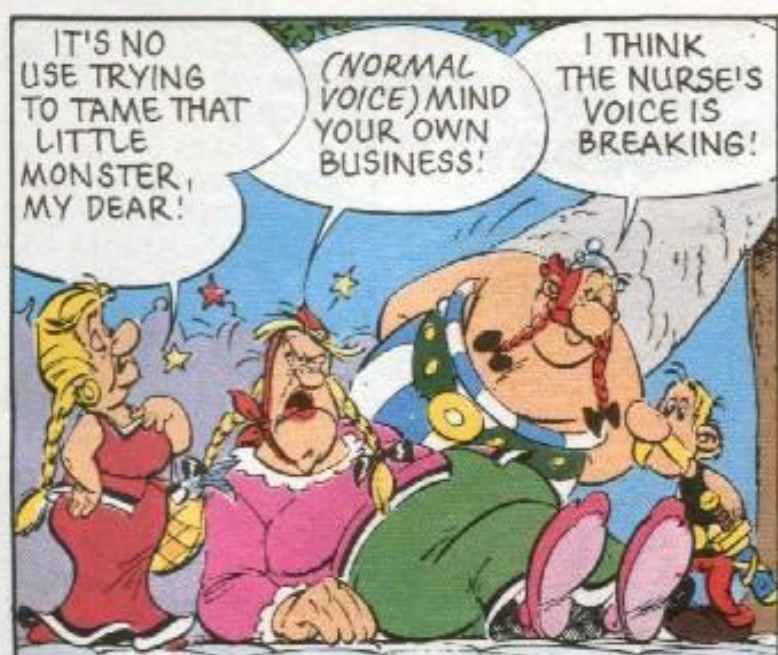


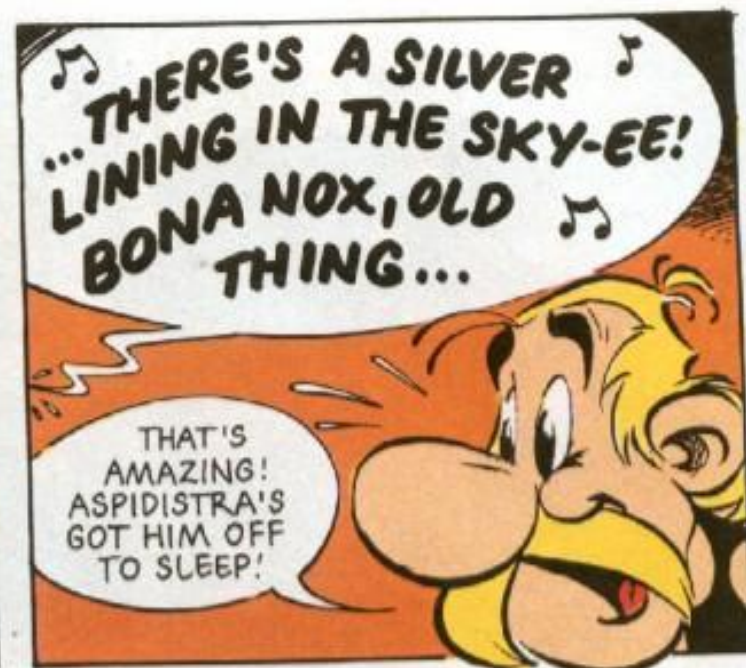
BY ZHUPITER! THAT'SH GOING A BIT TOO FAR!

IT WORKS! EVEN THE SENTRY WAS TAKEN IN!



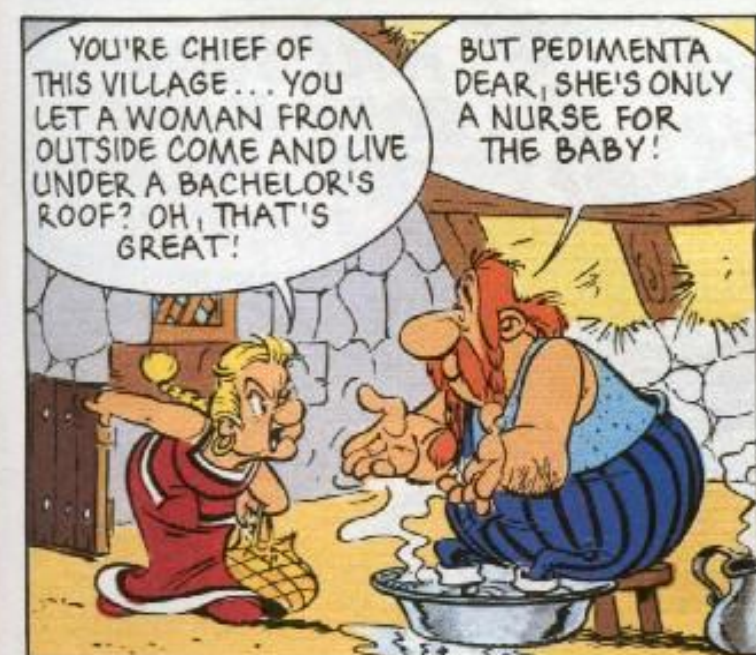


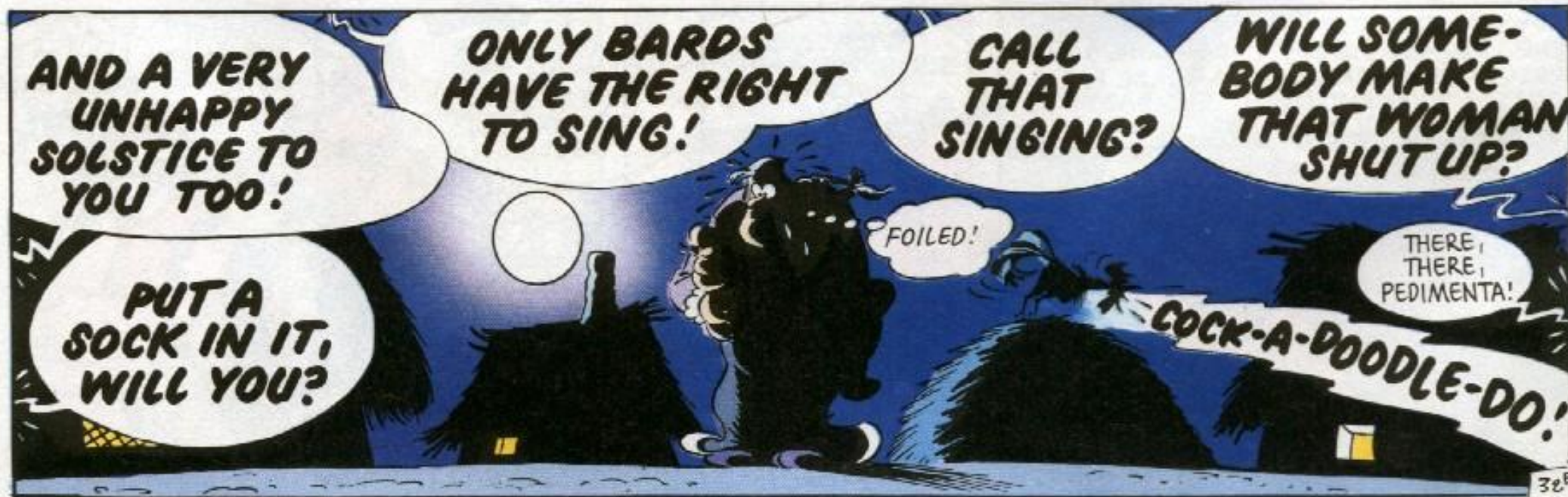
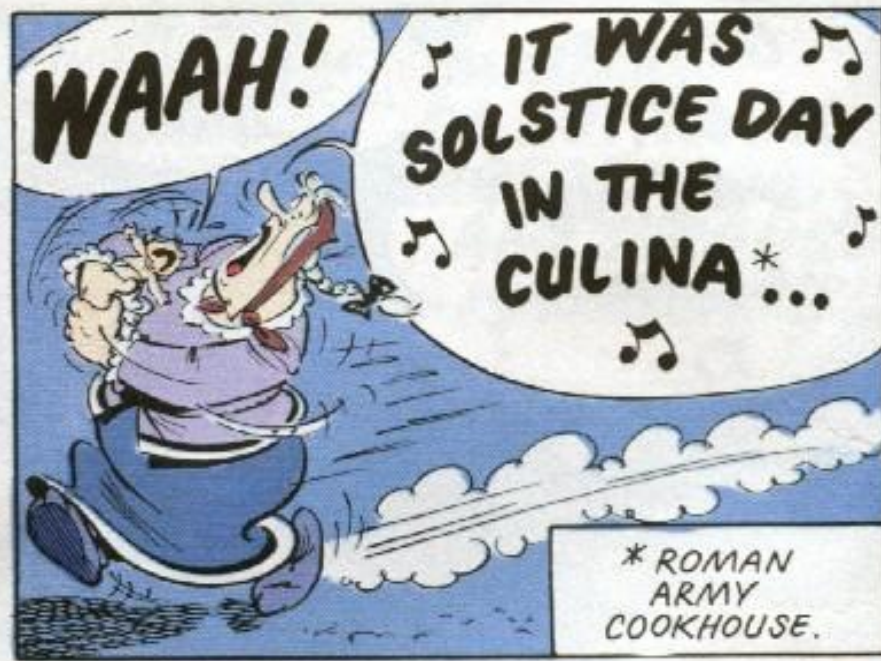
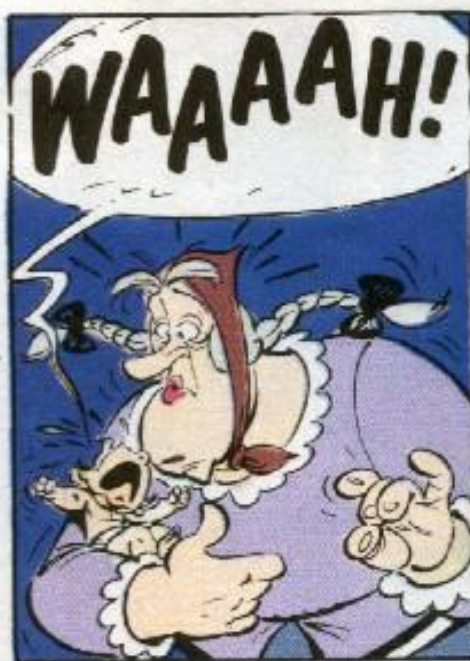
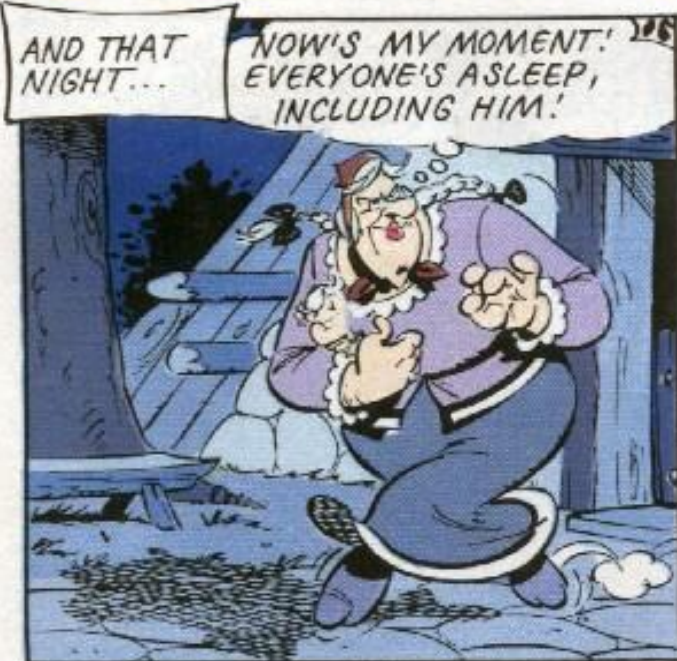
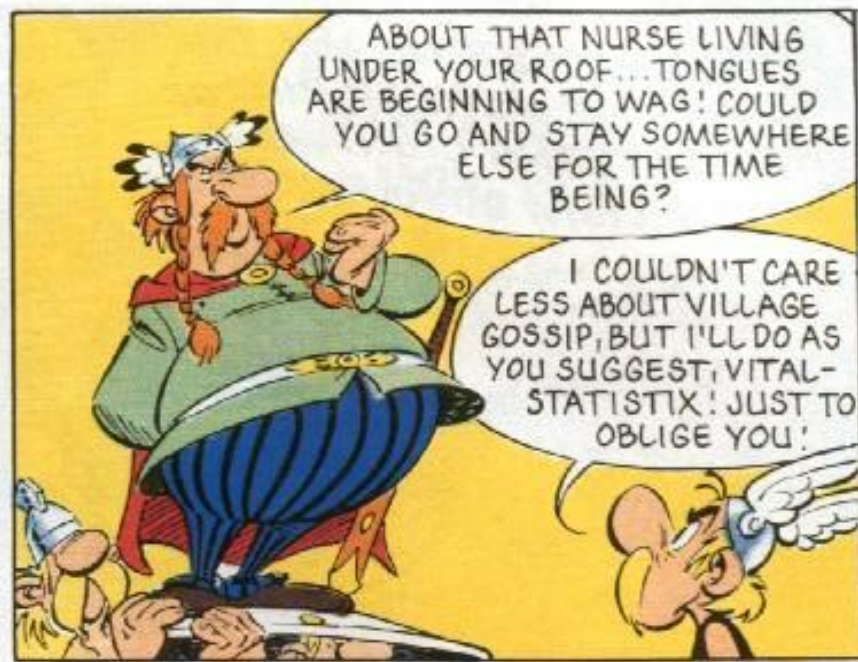






*LATIN: BARRACKS.



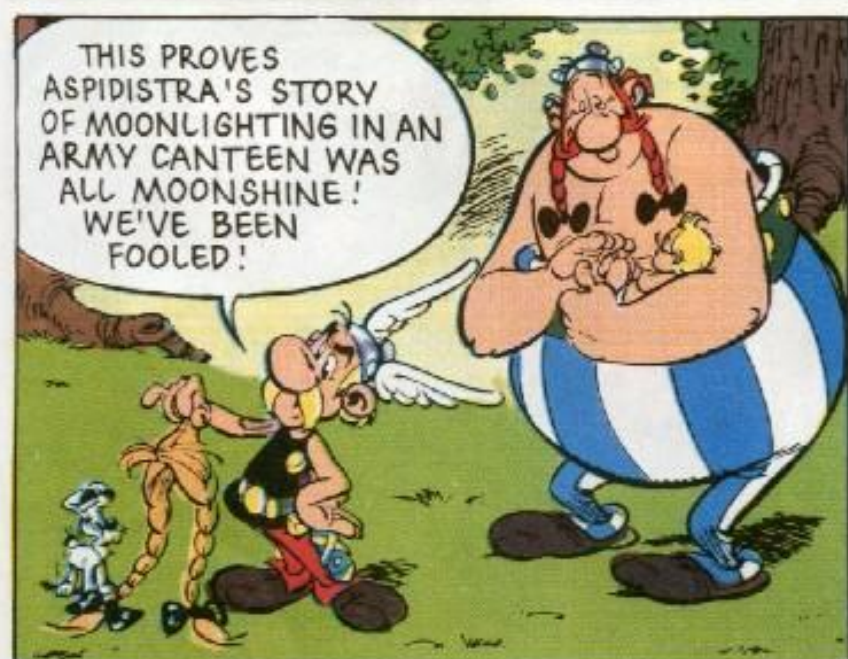
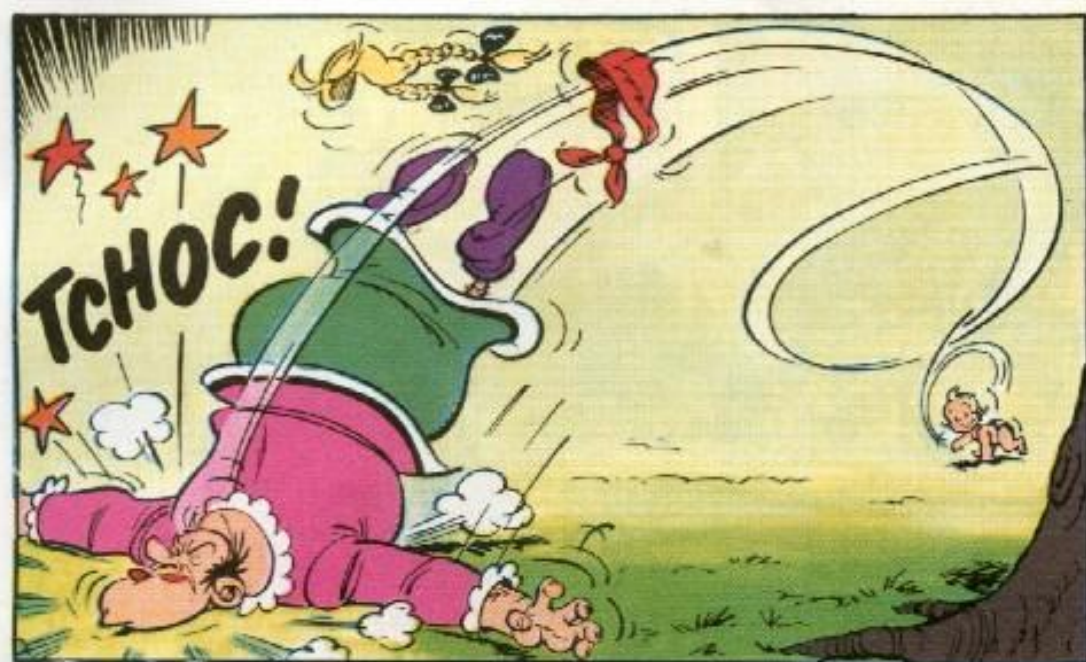


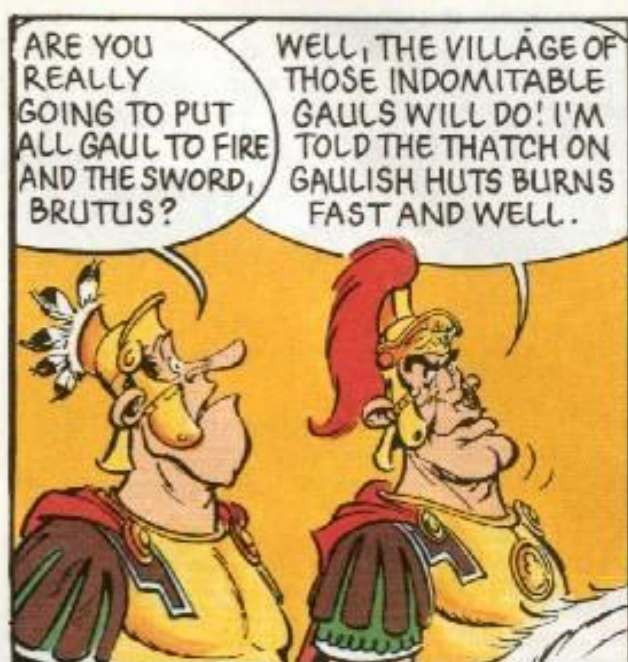




*LATIN: KIT-BAG.







THAT NIGHT,
SEVERAL MILIA
PASSUM* FROM
THE VILLAGE...

GET IT, CACTUS? I'M
LEAVING YOU IN COMMAND!
WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL,
OPEN FIRE!

*MILLE PASSUS= 1 ROMAN MILE.

A FIERY
ARROW! THE
SIGNAL!

ARE YOU
READY..?

FIRE!

THE ROMANS
ARE
ATTACKING!!!

FIRE!

THE VILLAGE
IS BURNING!

COCK-A-DOODLE-DO!

IMPEDIMENTA, YOU TAKE THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN DOWN TO THE BEACH WHILE WE DEAL WITH THE ROMANS!

I'LL LEAVE HIM IN YOUR CARE! I'M SURE HE'LL BE GOOD!



EVERYBODY LINE UP IN SILENCE, AND DON'T PANIC!



NO?

NO!

IT SEEMS TO TASTE RATHER FUNNY THIS TIME!

I EXPECT IT GOT A BIT BURNT IN THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT.



THE ROMANS ARE PLAYING WITH FIRE... NOW LET'S SHOW THEM WHAT *WE* CAN COOK UP!

CHARGE!



INVESTIGATORS FIRST! ISN'T THAT RIGHT, ASTERIX?

CHARGE!



WE OUTNUMBER THEM, AND WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED!



CRAAAAAASH!

MEANWHILE...



HAND ME THAT BABY, MY GOOD WOMAN!

?!



COME AND GET HIM IF YOU DARE!

YOU DON'T SCARE US, ROMAN! WE'VE HAD OUR PORTION OF MAGIC POTION!

WE HAVE? I DIDN'T GET ANY!

SSH! SHUT UP!



LEAVE IT TO HIM, DEAR! THAT ROMAN'S IN FOR A SURPRISE!



SO THIS IS THE TERRIBLE LITTLE MONSTER?

BY BELISAMA! THE EFFECTS OF THE POTION HAVE WORN OFF!

WAAAH!



OUT TO THE SHIP... FAST!

AND SOON...

DO YOU SWEAR THERE'S NO RISK OF THOSE CRAZY GAULS TURNING UP?

THEY'RE FAR TOO BUSY JUST NOW!



